



## Isaac Mizrahi

### Topics

Business and Management, Culture and Society, Diversity and Inclusion, Jewish Interest, LGBTQIA+, Pop Culture and Entertainment

### Travels From

New York

### Bio

Isaac Mizrahi has worked extensively in the entertainment industry as an actor, host, writer, designer, and producer for over 30 years. He is the subject and co-creator of *Unzipped*, a documentary following the making of his Fall 1994 collection which received an award at the Sundance Film Festival. He hosted his own television talk show *The Isaac Mizrahi Show* for seven years, has written two books, and has made countless appearances in movies and on television. He was also a judge on *Project Runway: All-Stars*. He is Chief Designer for the Isaac Mizrahi brands, a division of Xcel Brands, Inc. In 2009, Isaac launched his lifestyle collection, "ISAACMIZRAHILIVE!" on QVC. His IMNYC collection is currently sold at Lord & Taylor and Hudson's Bay Company. Isaac Mizrahi has directed productions of *A Little Night Music* and *The Magic Flute* for the Opera Theatre of St. Louis. Annually, he directs and narrates his production of the children's classic *Peter and The Wolf* at The Guggenheim Museum in New York. He has performed cabaret at Café Carlyle, Joe's Pub, West Bank Café, and City Winery

locations across the country. Isaac has his own production company, Isaac Mizrahi Entertainment, under which he has several projects in development in television, theatre, and literature. His 2019 memoir, *I.M.*, was an instant *New York Times* bestseller. Follow Isaac on [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#). *Photo credit: © Jason Frank Rothenberg*

## SPEECHES

**Entrepreneurship** Isaac Mizrahi is no stranger to new ventures. He's not only the creator and chief designer of the Isaac Mizrahi brands; he also owns his eponymous production company, produced an award-winning documentary, and launched his own television talk show. As a pop culture icon with many irons in the fire, Isaac has unparalleled insight and invaluable advice on creating and running companies in the entertainment sector.

**Arts, Culture, and Entertainment** With decades of experience in industries ranging from television to theatre to fashion to literature, Isaac Mizrahi shares insider information and reflections on the world of show business.

**LGBT Issues** Isaac Mizrahi reflects on his own experiences in the LGBTQ community and its expressions in the industries in which he's worked. He discusses growing up gay in a traditional Jewish family, an age rampant with homophobia, and witnessing the ravaging effects of the AIDS epidemic.

**Finding Your Niche** Isaac Mizrahi has been acquiring new niches since his breakout in the 1980s. From his first love--acting and showbiz--to becoming an international fashion sensation and design wunderkind, from filming documentaries to hosting talk shows to directing live productions, Mizrahi is a master of entering and dominating new fields.

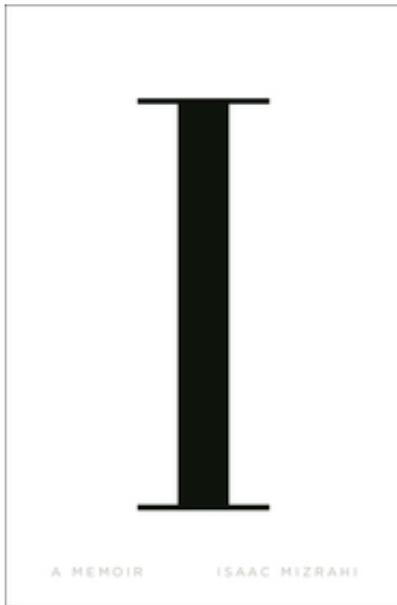
**Growing Up Jewish** Isaac Mizrahi discusses the hardships of growing up a gay man in a traditional, sheltered, Syrian Jewish Orthodox family. He reflects on the circumstances of his childhood and coming-of-age and the complex relationships of his immediate family.

## BOOKS

[I.M.A Memoir](#)

Flatiron Books

Isaac Mizrahi is sui generis. Designer. Cabaret singer. Talk show host. He's a pop culture icon unlike any fashion designer of recent memory, just



as likely to be recognized walking down Main Street USA as Madison Avenue NYC. Yet ever since he shot to fame in the 1980s, the private Isaac Mizrahi has remained under wraps. Until now.

## Hardcover

**REVIEWS: Advance praise for *I.M.*** “Throughout “*I.M.*,” this designer’s innovation and confidence are evident, contrasting with an industry that, despite its superficial fickleness, can be deeply resistant to change.”

*-The New York Times Book Review*

“*I.M.* is a surprisingly literary work; he sharply describes his world... a playful read, yet there is a weight to it, a few heavy paillettes to keep the structure in place.”

*-BookForum*

“Heart-rending... [an] honest rendering of how the underdog Mizrahi, whose self-image and livelihood are alternately crushed and affirmed, moves through the many creative phases of his life.”

*-The Washington Post*

“The key to the warmth and overall success of the memoir is Mizrahi’s unapologetic, bare-all approach as he shares the best and worst aspects of his life... a charming and witty memoir.”

*-Kirkus*

“Mizrahi reveals the many layers of his exceptional life in this witty intelligent memoir.”

*-Publishers Weekly*

"Mizrahi chronicles the stages of his life—as an ungainly youngster growing up in his uberconservative Syrian Jewish community, a closeted student at New York's High School for the Performing Arts, a gifted newcomer maneuvering through the layers of the fashion industry, a jet-setting superstar, and then, abruptly, yesterday's news—through his current career as a performer and producer. He shares his never-ending anxieties, indecision, and bouts of depression in introspective passages, as well as the ups

and downs of his personal life, including the on- again, off-again courtship of his now husband, Arnold. This is likely to get a lot of celebrity buzz; expect enthusiastic demand."

-Kathleen McBroom, *Booklist*

"...Admirable read for fashionistas and lovers of memoirs alike."

-*New York Journal of Books*

"Isaac Mizrahi is a true Renaissance man. He can do it all! He's managed to live several lives in one lifetime."

-RuPual

"*I.M.* has everything! It's colorful, hysterical, touching, bold, and heartbreaking. It's about coming of age, creativity, being yourself, Jewish mothers, fashion, art, loss, and glamour. I loved it."

-Andy Cohen, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Superficial*

"The key to the warmth and overall success of the memoir is Mizrahi's unapologetic, bare-all approach as he shares the best and worst aspects of his life... a charming and witty memoir."

-*Kirkus*

"Mizrahi reveals the many layers of his exceptional life in this witty intelligent memoir."

-*Publishers Weekly*

"Intimate and generous and 100% Isaac. What makes this book so incredibly deliciously good is Isaac's specificity...not just as material (pun intended) but beyond the fabric of clothing and into the fabric of life, the experiences, the nuances, the brilliance and oddity of the times we're in."

—A. M. Homes, *New York Times* bestselling author

"In this bracingly honest, courageously vulnerable, and often hilarious memoir, Isaac Mizrahi traces a life full of yearning, telling his story as generously as he's lived it. This is the narrative of how a fat and conflicted yeshiva boy became a great and glamorous designer, and it is both gossipy and insightful, both elegant and profound, a portrait of Mizrahi's enduring anxiety and prodigious brilliance."

—Andrew Solomon, *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Noonday Demon* and *Far from the Tree*