Elizondo, Hector (1936-) Encyclopedia Article

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Elizondo, Hector (1936—)

A physically compact character actor with a brilliantly economical technique to match, Hector Elizondo delighted audiences and gained fame with his polished performance as the hotel manager in *Pretty Woman* (1990), one of several films he made for Garry Marshall. This New York-born actor of Hispanic parentage, who trained at the Actors Studio, proved exceptionally versatile, playing a wide range of supporting roles, utilizing different accents and dialects, and capturing the essence of a character, whether in drama or comedy, by an expert flick of expression. His multitude of television appearances include Sandy Stern in *Burden of Proof* (1992) and the put-upon hospital chief Dr. Philip Watters, authoritative, weary, and not always wise, in *Chicago Hope* from 1994. He came to television and film with an impeccable Broadway provenance, beginning his career in *Mister Roberts* (1961) for distinguished director Edwin Sherin.

Further Reading:

Charity, Tom. "Hector Elizondo." *Who's Who in Hollywood.* Edited by Robyn Karney. New York, Continuum, 1994.