

# **Gregory Hines**

## **Childhood**

Gregory Hines began dancing as a toddler. When he was only 2, his father placed him in a dance act with his older brothers. At the age of 5, he began to tour with his brother, Maurice. They were known as the Hines Kids and performed together for several years. When they became adolescents, the brothers joined their father and became known as Hines, Hines and Dad. The threesome toured nightclubs together and even appeared on television.

## **Broadway Career**

In 1973, Tony headed for New York and launched a successful Broadway career. Gregory proved to have an incredible talent for tap dancing. He was nominated for Tony Awards three years in a row for various starring roles. In 1993 he received the Best Actor Tony Award for his starring role in Jelly's Last Jam.

## **Film Career**

Gregory followed his success on Broadway with several non-dancing roles in film. He starred in many well-known movies, including Renaissance Man, Waiting to Exhale, and The Preacher's Wife. His famous dancing roles included starring with Mikhael Baryshnikov in the spy thriller White Nights, and starring in the great dance movie, Tap.

## **Death**

Gregory died of liver cancer in 2003, at the young age of 57. He had kept the disease to himself, so his untimely death came as quite a shock. As a tribute to Gregory, the lights of Broadway were dimmed in his honour for three days following his death.