

Biography Marwan Kenzari

Marwan Kenzari (1983) is an award-winning Dutch actor. He received critical acclaim for his powerful and brooding performance in the Dutch crime drama *WOLF*, in which he plays a recently paroled Moroccan immigrant struggling to toe the line between promising boxer and rising criminal enforcer. His performance won him the Golden Calf for Best Actor at the Netherlands Film Festival in 2013. The International Film Festival Berlin selected Marwan as a Shooting Star 2014, while *Variety* introduced him as 'International Talent to Watch' in February 2014. In December 2016, *The Hollywood Reporter* acknowledged him as one of 15 'International Break Out Talents of 2016'

In 2009, Marwan graduated at the prestigious Theatre Academy Maastricht, one of the finest drama academies in Europe. Soon after he joined the Amsterdam Theatre Group to work with internationally acclaimed director Ivo van Hove (*A VIEW FROM A BRIDGE*, *LAZARUS*). Marwan was seen on stage in plays such as *ANGELS IN AMERICA*, *OPENING NIGHT*, *ROMAN TRAGEDIES* and *THE RUSSIANS*, which he not only performed in Holland, but also in New York, Moscow, Vienna and London.

Marwan made his screen debut in 2009, in *MAITE WAS HERE* by European Film Award-winning director Boudewijn Koole. In the same year he starred in *THE LAST DAYS OF EMMA BLANK*, by auteur-director Alex van Warmerdam, whose most recent film *BORGMAN* screened in competition at Cannes Film Festival 2013.

A year later, Marwan landed a role in *LOFT*, which is awarded The Best Dutch Crime Drama of the last decade in 2013, and receives the Crimezone Award of Honor. In the same year, first-time director Jim Taihuttu and Marwan joined forces for *RABAT*. The film marks the start of a long-time collaboration between Jim and Marwan, which continued with *WOLF* in 2013 and a third feature film currently in development.

Marwan went to great lengths to prepare himself for the role of kickboxer Majid in *WOLF*. He trained for more than two years in Amsterdam and Paris to get himself the body of a kickboxer.

In 2014 Marwan played lead roles in the Dutch romantic comedy *STREET OF HEARTS* and the kidnapping drama *RECKLESS*, and a supporting role in *ACCUSED*, a court drama based on actual events, by Paula van der Oest, which made it to the short list for the Best Foreign Language Oscar in 2015.

In 2016, he had turns in Timur Bekmambetov's *Ben Hur* and Terry George's period drama *The Promise* starring Christian Bale and Oscar Isaac, which premiered in Toronto. 2017 will see him feature alongside Tom Cruise in *The Mummy*, opposite Noomi Rapace and Glenn Close in *What Happened to Monday*, and together with Anthony Hopkins, Ben Kingsley and Nicholas Hoult in actioner *Collide*.

Next up is 20th Century Fox's *MURDER ON THE ORIENT EXPRESS* with Kenneth Branagh, Penelope Cruz, Johnny Depp and Judi Dench, with Branagh also directing. Kenzari will play the French conductor of the train.

“WOLF is like watching early Scorsese and De Niro be reborn. (..) Marwan Kenzari has the kind of pure star potential that’s magnetic” – movies.com

“Marwan Kenzari is terrific (...) A brooding talent to be watched” – Screen International