

Biography Halina Reijn

In her native country The Netherlands, Halina Reijn (1975) has often been referred to as possibly the best actress of her generation. She won multiple awards, including the Dutch film Award, the Golden Calf for Best Actress, the highly prestigious Dutch theater awards Theo D'Or and Colombina as well as the Courbois pearl, an oeuvre award which honours an actress who had made an indelible impression on a huge audience, both on stage as in film and television. And recently the Theo Mann-Bouwmeesterring was added to this list of awards she received, this prestigious price honours her significant contribution to the Dutch theatre.

Halina Reijn was born and raised in Groningen, a city in the north east of The Netherlands, on November 10th, 1975. At the age of 6 she decided to become an actress.

Halina was uniquely accepted by three drama academies in The Netherlands. She chose to go to the Maastricht Theater Academy, one of the best drama academies in Europe. In her second year of training, one of the most influential Dutch casting directors noticed Halina in a play. He introduced her to Theu Boermans, a well known Dutch director and at the time artistic leader of Toneelgroep Amsterdam, the Amsterdam Theater Company.

Halina then left the academy to debut on stage as Ophelia in HAMLET, directed by Boermans. In the same year she got her first part in a film directed by Paula van der Oest (BLACK BUTTERFLIES) and graduated early at the Maastricht Theater Academy.

She continued to act on stage: SHOPPING & FUCKING for which she was awarded the prestigious Dutch Colombina for Best Supporting Actress. She also starred in LULU, THE SEAGULL, THREE SISTERS, MOURNING BECOMES ELECTRA (Theo d'Or nomination), HEDDA GABLER and Jean Cocteau's monologue LA VOIX HUMAINE.

She starred in films such as ZUS & ZO (nomination Academy Award for Best Foreign Language Film), GRIMM, FATHER'S AFFAIR, POLLEKE and BLIND. For her performance in the TV miniseries THE PRINCE AND THE GIRL Halina won the Golden Calf for Best Actress at the Netherlands Film Festival.

In 2006 Halina stars in Paul Verhoeven's critically acclaimed BLACK BOOK. In The Netherlands the film is acclaimed the best Dutch film of all times. In 2008 she appears in Bryan Singer's VALKYRIE, next to Tom Cruise.

In 2010 she starred as Lara in IN THERAPIE, the Dutch version of the HBO hit series IN TREATMENT, and in two Dutch book adaptations. DE EETCLUB, directed by Robert Jan Westdijk (LITTLE SISTER) and ISABELLE by director Ben Sombogaart (nominated Academy Award for Best Foreign Language Film TWIN SISTERS). In the summer of 2011 Halina is added to the cast of GOLTZIUS & THE PELICAN COMPANY, directed by Peter Greenaway. In 2013 she plays the title role in the weekly TV series CHARLIE, a Dutch remake of Showtime's NURSE JACKIE. Since September 2013 she is the host of

a weekly film programme on Dutch television.

Currently she works with internationally acclaimed director Ivo van Hove at the Internationaal Theater Amsterdam (formerly known as the Amsterdam Theater Company), performing their plays all over the world. In 2013 she won the prestigious *Theo D'Or* award for best female lead performance in a theater play for her role in Ibsen's *A DOLL HOUSE*, directed by Thibaud Delpeut.

Halina is a talented writer as well. Her debut novel *PRINSESJE NOOITGENOEG* was first published in 2005. Her second book was successfully published in 2009. In 2013 she published the book *ANTIGLAMOUR* together with her good friend and well-known actress Carice van Houten. Her most recent book was published in 2016 under the name *LOOS*, a collection of various columns she wrote. She has been a column and essay writer for several Dutch magazines and news papers. Currently Halina is working on two film scripts and three television series based on original ideas.

In 2014/2015 Halina performs in the play *THE FOUNTAINHEAD*, based on the book by Ayn Rand, which received worldwide raving reviews. Furthermore she could be seen in the box office hit *GIFT FROM THE HEART*, a Dutch romantic comedy for the 2014 holiday season.

In 2015 she continued to play with the Internationaal Theater Amsterdam, in one of the lead roles in Schiller's *MARIA STUART*, and could be seen in the film *BOY 7* and the Dutch remake of the successful Israeli TV series *BEAUTY & THE BAKER*. Most recently she played one of the leads in the Dutch-language musical film, *THE SEVENTH HEAVEN* directed by Job Gosschalk.

Next up is the feature film *FORBIDDEN LOVE* directed by Nicole van Kilsdonk and the play *OBSESSION*, a coproduction between the Amsterdam Theater Company and the Barbican Centre London, in which Halina plays the female lead role opposite Jude Law.