

Biography Halina Reijn

Halina Reijn (1975) is a Dutch actress, director, writer and producer.

She is currently in post production for her directorial feature film debut *INSTINCT*, starring Carice van Houten (*GAME OF THRONES*) and Marwan Kenzari (*ALADDIN*). *INSTINCT* will be the first outing for Man Up, the production banner of Halina and Carice. In addition, she created the successful Dutch TV series *MEISJE VAN PLEZIER* (2017), which has been picked up for a second season and co-created the Dutch/Belgian TV series *RED LIGHT DISTRICTS*, which is currently in pre-production and is set to shoot in 2019. Next to being one of the creators of the show, she is also coproducing and set to star in one of the lead roles.

In her native country The Netherlands, Halina is considered one of the best and most versatile actresses 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. Most recently, the Theo Mann-Bouwmeester Ring was added to her list of awards. With his prestigious award Halina was honoured for her significant contribution to the Dutch theatre.

At the age of 17, 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, Halina was introduced 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 landed a role in *ZUS & ZO*, a film directed by Paula van der Oest (*BLACK BUTTERFLIES*) which picked up the Academy Award nomination for Best Foreign Language Film 2003. The Maastricht Theater Academy, normally a four year education, allowed Halina to graduate early because of her special qualities.

In the past two decades Halina transformed from a promising young actress to the grande dame of the Amsterdam Theatre Company, where she works with Tony winner Ivo van Hove, performing their plays all over the world. Halina played lead roles in many of the big classic plays such as *LULU*, *HEDDA GABLER*, *MOURNING BECOMES ELECTRA*, *THREE SISTERS*, *A DOLL HOUSE* and *MARIA STUART*, and received several awards and nominations for her brilliant performances. She toured all over the world with Jean Cocteau's monologue *LA VOIX HUMAINE*. Most recently, she played opposite Jude Law in *OBSESSION*, a coproduction between the Amsterdam Theater Company and the Barbican Centre London.

In the meantime, she continued to work on film and TV series as well. In 2006 Halina starred in Paul Verhoeven's critically acclaimed *BLACK BOOK*. Her performance in this film didn't go unnoticed, and Bryan Singer offered her a role in his 2008 film *VALKYRIE*, starring Tom Cruise. Other projects include *IN THERAPIE*, the Dutch

version of the HBO hit series IN TREATMENT, and the title role in CHARLIE, the Dutch remake of Showtime's NURSE JACKIE. She worked with Peter Greenaway on GOLTZIUS & THE PELICAN COMPANY and played the lead role in ISABELLE, by director Oscar nominated director Ben Sombogaart. She will be seen next in the Swedish TV series CONSPIRACY OF SILENCE, directed by Charlotte Brändström.

Halina is a talented writer as well. Her debut novel PRINSESJE NOOITGENOEG was first published in 2005, followed by a second book in 2009. In 2013 she published ANTIGLAMOUR, together with Carice van Houten. Her most recent book, LOOS, was published in 2016, a collection of various columns she wrote for several Dutch magazines and news papers.