

## **Biography Sallie Harmsen**

At the age of 19 Sallie Harmsen (1989) received her first Golden Calf nomination (the Dutch equivalent of the Academy Award) for her role in THE REAL LIFE (2008), followed by a second Best Actress nomination in 2012 for the role in THE SECRETS OF BARSLET (2011). That same year she graduated from the prestigious Maastricht Theatre Academy - generally considered one of the best drama academies in Europe - being awarded 'most promising graduation student' by a jury of Dutch casting directors.

After graduating high school at the age of 18, Sallie decided to take a year off. During this year Sallie and director Robert Jan Westdijk shot THE REAL LIFE. It's her first lead role in a feature film, which immediately earns her a Golden Calf nomination for Best Actress. Prior to this break-through role Sallie appeared in supporting roles in two hugely successful Dutch family films.

Being blessed with several creative talents, Sallie has a difficult time deciding whether to study Art, Theatre or Music. Eventually she decides to audition at drama academies and gets herself - uniquely - accepted to the country's three main drama academies: The Theatre School in Amsterdam, The Theatre Academy in Amsterdam and The Theatre Academy in Maastricht. She chose the latter.

During her studies Sallie appeared in THE AVIATRIX OF KAZBEK (2009), and played leading roles in the movies LOFT (2010) and THOUGH TALES (2010), PIZZA MAFIA (2011) and the much discussed THE HEINEKEN KIDNAPPING (2011) with Dutch iconic actor Rutger Hauer. Sallie also hit the screens in several movies such as OUT (2012) and BOWY IS INSIDE (2012), as well as the historic drama KENAU (2014) and THE MOST BEAUTIFUL THING IN THE WORLD (2015).

Sallie played one of the lead roles in ACCUSED (2014), a true story about a nurse who was wrongfully accused of being a serial killer. ACCUSED made it to the Foreign Film Shortlist of the 2015 Oscars, and Sallie received a nomination for Best Acting Performance Female at the Melbourne International Film Festival.

In 2013 Sallie joined The National Theatre in The Hague, one of the leading Dutch theatre companies. While being coached in a special 'young talent program' over a period of 2 years, Sallie could be seen on stage in Shakespeare's MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM, ELEKTRA and POLLEKE, based on a famous Dutch children's book. She received 4 and 5 star reviews in all leading Dutch newspapers for her portrayal of the 11 year old Polleke, and she won the prestigious Dutch theatre award the ZILVEREN KREKEL 2015 in the category Most Impressive Stage Performance. In 2017, she can be seen on stage in the title role of JOAN OF ARC by director Theu Boermans, and in IFIGENEIA KONINGSKIND.

In 2016 Sallie starred in the TV series THE HUNT – the Dutch remake of THOSE WHO KILL - and CATCH, inspired by the true story of two Dutch criminals/lovers, known as "the Dutch Bonnie & Clyde", and the short film COPYRETTE. In 2017 she starred in BLADE RUNNER 2049 directed by Denis Villeneuve.

In 2018, Sallie plays a lead role (Desdemona) in OTHELLO and wrapped shooting the international series HEIRS OF THE NIGHT. She is currently shooting the international series DEVILS, by Nick Hurran (director of THE PRISONERS).

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