

SACHA POLAK | BIOGRAPHY

Sacha Polak (1982) is an award winning director and writer. She graduated from the Dutch Film and Television Academy in 2006. Her graduation project, the movie TEER, was selected for a number of international movie festivals. Shortly after her project, TEER, the short movies EL MOURABBI (2007), DRANG(2008), ONDER DE TAFEL (2008) and BROER (2011) followed.

With her first feature film HEMEL (2011) she received great critical acclaim from the international press. The project was also part of the selection of many international film festivals, including the Berlinale Forum where it won the FIPRESCI award. (International Federation of Film Critics Award)

Two years after the success of HEMEL, Sacha came back, this time with the documentary NEW BOOBS (2013). The documentary revolves around the options woman have if they are carrying the genetically transmitted breast cancer gene. With this documentary Sacha got her second slew of International Film Festival selections, to great critical acclaim.

Her second feature film ZURICH (2014) got many positive reviews, and it also got selected for the Berlinale where it won the International Confederation of Art Cinema Award (C.I.C.E.A award), which is a jury price, for Best Film of FORUM.

Sacha's first English language feature DIRTY GOD (2019), which she directed and co-wrote, is the first Dutch film ever to have been selected for the Sundance main competition. The film was also selected as the opening film of International Film Festival Rotterdam 2019. DIRTY GOD won Best Director and Best Film at the Netherlands Film Festival 2019. The film was selected for numerous festivals worldwide, and lead actress Vicky Knight was nominated at the BAFTA 2019 for Breakthrough Brit.