

BIOGRAPHY KATJA HERBERS

In her home country The Netherlands, where she was born and raised, Katja Herbers is considered to be one of the most beloved and talented actresses of her generation. She won her first major American role on Thomas Schlamme's MANHATTAN in 2014, playing one of the leads: Dr. Helen Prins, the only female physicist working on the Manhattan project in 1943. This year, she also played a recurring role on FX' THE AMERICANS season 3. She just came off the set of the second season of MANHATTAN, shooting in Santa Fe, New Mexico.

Katja comes from a family of classical musicians. Her mother, Vera Beths, is a famous violist, her father Werner Herbers was solo hoboist of the Royal Concertbuilding Orchestra for 40 years. Her father remarried a costume designer, who took her along to plays and filmsets from a very early age on. Her mother remarried cellist Anner Bijlsma. Having parents who had to travel so much, Katja had a Canadian au-pair and is therefore bilingual.

After quite uniquely being accepted to the two most prestigious drama schools in The Netherlands, she hit the ground running. As an outstanding student of the Amsterdam Academy of Fine Arts, she got the opportunity to work with several acclaimed Dutch film directors, such as Alex van Warmerdam (BORGMAN).

After graduation, Katja immediately got offered a diversity of interesting roles. She decided to join Johan Simons' theatre ensemble NTGent in Gent, Belgium. There, she played an array of different characters, from modern to classical, from Elfriede Jelinek to Tjechov and Shakespeare. Later on, Katja followed Johan Simons to Munich, Germany. At the Munich Kammerpiele, where she performed in German, Johan Simons directed her in Joseph Roths' HOTEL SAVOY, Alvis Hermanis directed her in Maxim Gorki's WASSA and Stephan Kimmig in PLATFORM, the latter awarded best theatre play of the season, with Katja in the lead role.

She also worked with Olivier-winning director Ivo van Hove, director and artistic leader of the Amsterdam Theatre Group, on OPENING NIGHT (Cassavetes). Katja played the lead role in Van Hove's feature film AMSTERDAM, which co-starred Marisa Tomei.

Acclaimed Dutch director Theu Boermans has been a key figure throughout Katja's career. They have worked together on numerous theatre plays and film projects. Katja played a lead role in his movie THE CHOSEN which won the prestigious Prix de l'Europe and an International Emmy Award.

Katja is also a gifted singer and has performed IM WUNDERSCHÖNEN MONAT MAI – a composition inspired by the great Schubert and Schumann songs by Reinbert de Leeuw especially written for an actress.

While achieving many successes on stage, Katja continued filming as well. She worked with the Oscar Nominated and International Emmy Awarded Director Ben Sombogaart on the Dutch blockbuster feature THE STORM. Critics raved about her portrayal of the Dutch Queen (then Princess) Maxima in the mini-series BEATRIX.

Rudolf van den Berg directed her in the feature film SÜSKIND, in which she played the right hand of Dutch war hero Walter Süskind, who helped escape over a thousand children during World War II. The story is best described as the Dutch SCHINDLER'S LIST.

In MANNENHARTEN (MEN IN THE CITY), the Dutch Box Office hit of 2013, she moved audiences to tears with her portrayal of the young single-mother-to-be NICOLE. In 2015 she could be seen in the sequel, MEN IN THE CITY 2.

Really all of Holland knows her for her portrayal of the emotionally instable but lovable JOYCE in the TV hitseries DIVORCE, which glues a record breaking 25% of all Dutch television viewers to the screen every Sunday evening. The series has a total of four seasons.

Internationally, Katja is known from her leading role on the TV series MANHATTAN, she also plays a recurring role on season three of FX's THE AMERICANS, which aired in Spring 2015. She can be seen in HBO series THE LEFTOVERS and is currently working on MANHUNT: UNABOMBER, a scripted drama series from Kevin Spacey's production company.

Katja divides her time between Los Angeles, New York and Amsterdam.