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## COBOS FILMS

### CV Carmen Cobos



Photo by Serge Ligtenberg

**Director/producer CARMEN COBOS** was born in Southern Spain. In 1991 she started working as researcher for the BBC. In 1997 she moved to The Netherlands where she started in 2001 her own production company **Cobos Films BV**, producing internationally renowned cinema & television documentaries. Her productions have been shown by the main public broadcasters in The Netherlands and abroad. Several feature documentaries were released in cinemas and on DVD in The Netherlands, United Kingdom, Germany, USA, Switzerland, Japan Canada, France and Poland. Her films have been shown in more than 100 film festivals around the world.

Her award-winning credits as producer include *The Player* and *The Last Victory* by John Appel, *Comrade Couture* by Marco Wilms, *Forever* and *El Olvido* by Heddy Honigmann, and more recently *Wrong Time Wrong Place* by John Appel, which opened the 25<sup>th</sup> edition of IDFA 2012.

Two years later her production *Around the World in 50 Concerts* opened IDFA 2014. She received the *Stimulans for Success Award* in 2006, 2008, 2010 & 2014.

Carmen has been a regular tutor for EDN workshops and for other European and Latin-American organizations. She has also been an expert for several European AV Funds (MEDIA, Jan Vrijman – IDFA Bertha Fund, IDFA Summer Academy) and a jury member for the San Sebastian Film Festival (2013), Seminci (Valladolid 2010-2019), the Seville Film Festival (2009), Punto de Vista (Navarra 2008), IDFA (Joris Ivens Award, 2005), the Infinity Festival (2005) and Docs Lisboa (2004). She is a member of the European Film Academy. In 2009 she was chosen Producer-on-the-Move for the Cannes Film Festival. Carmen has special expertise in international coaching in co-productions, financing and producing for cinema & television. In May 2015 Cineteca Madrid organised a retrospective of Carmen's work where she show-cased eleven feature-length documentaries she produced.

In 2012 Carmen started to also work as a director. Her debut documentary *Imperfect Harmony* (AvroTros, 76 mins, 2014), about the musical clash between Holland's avant-garde composer Louis Andriessen and the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra's chief-conductor Mariss Jansons, was chosen by IDFA for one of its high-profile, special screenings. *Nelsons N°5* (AvroTros, 71 mins, 2015) is her second film about a conductor, Andris Nelsons, and his unique way of conducting Shostakovich's Symphony No.5. Her third feature-length documentary *Daniele Gatti – Overture to a Conductor*, (AvroTros, 78 mins, 2016) portrays the Italian conductor as the new Maestro of the RCO.

After these three music documentaries Carmen started to make more personal films. In 2018 the documentary *Cat Stories* (KRO-NCRV, 73 mins) about her love/hate relationship with cats. Then followed *Samen* (HUMAN, 78 mins, 2019) in which her own life was the arena for a hearth-warming look at how couples deal with the intrusion of an incurable disease in their relationship. Between 2020 and 2022 she filmed and post-produced *The Royal Republic* (AvroTros, 85 mins, 2022). Presently she is filming for her seventh documentary *The Cure* and develops *The Taboo* for production in 2023. All her films have been released in the Dutch cinemas.

## CV Kees Rijninks



**Producer KEES RIJNINKS** studied directing and producing at the National Film & Television School in Beaconsfield, England. After graduating in 1981 he worked as an independent producer, director and cinematographer for BBC, Channel Four and ITV. In this period, he produced and directed in addition to commercials several documentaries and short fiction like *Claret and Chips* (Ch4/4-part doc. series), *Maggie's Children* (Ch4, single doc), *A Clydeside Carol* (BBC Drama Scotland). From 1990 he focussed mainly on producing cinema-documentaries. In 1997 he returned to the Netherlands, where he was responsible as producer for award-winning films, like: *Romance de Valentía* (Best Documentary Chicago 1994), *Silent Witness*, *The Hunt* (a.o. Prix Italia 1999), *Lágrimas Negras* (a.o. Dutch Academy Award 1999), *A Cry from the Grave* (co-prod. Dutch Academy Award 2000, IDFA Special Jury Award '99, FIPA 2000), *Two Loves* (Dutch Academy Award 2001). All films were released in cinemas in the Netherlands and some in cinemas in Germany, UK and USA.

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In addition, he co-developed and produced (for the first two years) a weekly series called *De Vloer Op*, with actors improvising on modern-day issues and dilemmas. Starting in 2000 the series run very successfully for 21 years.

Between 2001 and 2007 Kees was Head of Documentary at the Netherlands Film Fund. In 2002 he initiated *DocuZone* to stimulate weekly documentary screenings in the cinema. In 2004 he expanded this concept into *CinemaNet Europe*, a digital network of 175 cinemas spread across 8 European countries. This initiative guaranteed pan-European releases between 2004 and 2006 for 30 international documentaries and the national screening of 120 Dutch documentaries. He also founded *Cinema Delicatessen* and the technical arm *CinemaNet Nederland*. Together they formed the very first all-digital film distribution network in Europe.

In 2010 Kees resumed his work as freelance producer developing features and documentaries with Carmen Cobos, including titles like *Imperfect Harmony* (dir. Carmen Cobos, 2014), *Nelsons no.5* (dir. Carmen Cobos, 2015), *Wrong Time Wrong Place* (dir. John Appel, 2012) and *Om de Wereld in 50 Concerten* (dir. Heddy Honigmann, 2014). He produced *Daniele Gatti - Ouverture for a Conductor* (dir. Carmen Cobos, 2016), a portrait of the Italian chief-conductor of the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra. In 2017 he produced *Helse Pijn* (dir. Olivier van der Zee). Then *Cat Stories* (dir. Carmen Cobos, 2018) and *Samen* (dir. Carmen Cobos & Kees Rijninks, 2019).

Between 2000 and 2015 Kees was a regular tutor for EDN pitching workshops and was facilitator for workshops in the Netherlands and abroad. He was for several years treasurer for EDCF (London) and The Forum (IDFA, Amsterdam), specialist advisor for MEDIA's Script Commission (Brussels) and Digital Cinema Commission (Brussels), jury member for the International Emmy Awards and for the Valladolid Film Festival, Spain. For 3 years he was chairperson of the Executive Committee of the European Documentary Network.

In October 2020, he received the Special CFAP Producer Trade Award "as a tribute to his oeuvre and the exceptional contribution he has made to, among other things, the digital distribution of documentaries".