

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.

Photo by Serge Ligtenberg

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".