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Filmmaker

Jaap van Heusden

Education

1991 – 1998

Gymnasium

Revius Lyceum, Doorn

2000 – 2005

BA Director of Fiction

Netherlands Film Academy,
Amsterdam

Masterclasses

1997

Writer's School 't Colofon

Amsterdam. Writing Training

2002

AHK Writing classes with film
essayist **W.J. Otten**

2002 – 2003

Philosophy courses University of
Utrecht & VU Amsterdam.

2003

Act One Program Hollywood,

Los Angeles, Month long
Screenwriting course

Selected Film Credits

2005 / Filmacademy / 27' / Drama / Director

A very complicated story, simply told

The last intense three months in the lives of two friends. While Lukas teaches Tom to die, Tom teaches Lukas to live.

> Winner Tel Aviv Best Screenplay, Leiden Audience Award, Beijing Audience Award.
Shortlist Student Oscars, L.A. 2006, competition AFI Fest and CANNES Cinéfondation.

2006 / IJswater Films / 12' / Doc / Cinematographer & Director

Anderman

This short documentary portrays a peculiar writer who struggles to combine his search for beauty with the daily care for his demented mother.

> Competition Netherlands Filmfestival. Distributed in Dutch Cinemas by Cinema Delicatessen. Tribeca competition 2007, New York. Silverdocs 2007 competition. Nomination Bunker Fest. Italy. Winner Avanca, Portugal.

2008 / IJswater Films, NPS / 39' / Drama / Director

OOIT (ONE DAY)

A mentally challenged man is still living together with his mother. On his birthday their lives change dramatically.

> Nomination Golden Calf Best TV Drama Netherlands Filmfestival.

2009 / Guapo Productions, JO / 15' / Doc / Director

I love het leger

12-year old tomboy Jade dreams of fighting in the Israeli army. How will she hold up when she visits a real army base in the desert?

> IDFA short documentary competition

2010 / IJswater Films, NPS / 83' / Feature Film / Writer & Director

Win/Win

During the credit crunch a playful 'nobody' at a famous investment bank becomes a successful trader overnight. As he's gradually becoming estranged from himself, he still seems unable to lose...

> Winner Best Script Prix-Europa Genève, Winner Best Actor Brooklyn Filmfest, Nomination Golden Calf Best Sounddesign & MovieSquad Award Netherlands FF, Official Selection: Int Filmfestival Rotterdam, AFI Fest, Vancouver, Warsaw, Sevilla

2007

ShadowDoc Masterclass,
four weeks training by VPRO,
HollandDoc with producer
Werner Dütsch, editor **Catherine
Rascon** and cameraman **Joan
Churchill**

2007 – 2008

Kids & Docs **Development
Workshop by IDFA & Cinekid**

2008 – 2009

EATC/**Prix Genève Europa
Writing Workshop** & Bursary

2012

Masterclass Raindance London
with **Guillermo Arriaga** on
writing non-linear screenplays.

2013

Masterclass Sandberg@
Mediafonds, **Liquid Journalism**,
with designer Ruben Pater.

1996 – 2019

L'Abri Fellowship, UK.
Residencies at this international
student community to study for
periods between 1 – 6 weeks
on **philosophy, religion
& the arts**

Selected Awards

Winner **Dutch Academy Award**
(Golden Kalf) **Best Director** and
Best Script and **Best Actress**
Winner **Best Film Austin FF**
Nominee Dutch Academy Award
Best TV Movie and **Best Short
Documentary**
Winner **Int. Emmy Award Best
Actress**, **Signis Award**

2011 / Talent United, HUMAN / 40' / TV Drama / Writer & Director

Drone

A family man works his 9-to-5 job on a base close to home flying Unmanned Aerial Vehicles above remote countries. Killing people during the day, while raising a son at night turns out to be an increasingly difficult combination.

2012 / Talent United, HUMAN / 40' / TV Drama / Director

Het Offer (The Sacrifice)

When his son is involved in the murder of a girl, a judge must choose to cover his son's tracks or to deliver him into the hands of the legal system that he believes in.

2013 / IJswater Films, NTR / 85' / Feature Film / Co-Writer & Director

De Nieuwe Wereld (The New World)

A callous cleaner works at the Immigration Centre near the Airport. With strict routines she tries to keep people and her past at a distance. Until a West-African immigrant arrives who irritates and confronts her.

> *Emmy Award, International for Best Actress. Official selection International Film Festival Rotterdam. SIGNIS Award Washington Int FF Runner-Up Telescope Award Melbourne Int FF, Nominated for Prix-Europa Berlin, Winner Special Mention Mannheim-Heidelberg. Best Film, Best Actress & Best Actor at Tehran Int Filmfest. Monterrey Int. FF, Best Feature & Audience Award. Ourense Independent FF, Best Film & Best Director.*

2014 / Talent United, HUMAN / 40' / TV Drama / Writer & Director

De Verloren Zoon (The Lame Shall Enter First)

Blinded by his ambition to save a young criminal, a father overlooks the needs of his own grieving son. Adaptation of the story by Flannery O'Connor.

2015 / Deepfocus, De Correspondent / 1'-5' / Concept & Co-Director

Behind the Blue Screen

Our project collects stories from Iran. A dedicated app allows storytellers to make video-selfies. Users can share their personal stories more freely because their faces are covered by a mask that still shows their emotion.

> *SXSW Digital Domain, Keynote, Dutch Directors Guild, Nomination Interactive storytelling.*

2017 / BALDR Film, VPRO / 23' / Doc / Sound & Co-Director

Asylum

David Brown experienced an epiphany, then crashed hard and is hunted by psychoses ever since. In a psychiatric hospital he tries to find his feet.

> *Nomination Golden Kalf Best Short Documentary. Competition Go Shorts Nijmegen.*

2017 / IJswater Films, NTR / 100' / Feature Film / Co-Writer & Director

In Blue

When a sturdy Dutch air hostess has to deliver a child in mid-air, she's thrown off balance. In the emotional aftermath she gets involved in a confusing relationship with a boy who's living in the tunnels under the Bucharest.

Festivals & Competitions

Cannes, Rotterdam, TriBeCa, SxSW, AFI Fest, IDFA, Int Emmy Awards, Rome, Melbourne, Rome, Istanbul, Goa, Beijing, Tel Aviv, Tehran

Interests

Photography
Poetry
Carpentry

Languages

Fluent in Dutch, English & African-French. reasonable knowledge of German.

> Winner Dutch Academy Awards (Golden Calf) for Best Actress, Best Screenplay & Best Director, Winner Best Feature Austin, Winner Eindhoven Special Jury Prize, Opening Film by the Sea, Competition Director's Forum Netherlands FF, Competition Rome, Oostende, Goa, Istanbul.

2019 / Talent United, HUMAN / 40' / TV Drama / Director

Het Laatste Verhoor (The Last Interrogation)

Two detectives have eight hours left to get a confession from a young Somali-Dutch terrorism suspect, who could be preparing an attack, but hard evidence is lacking. How far should they go in sacrificing freedom for safety?

Development & Production

2021 / IJswater Films, Caviar (BE), Lithium Studios (CA), EO / 100' Feature Film / Co-Writer & Director

In Alaska

A boy from a tiny village in Alaska is so depressed he wants to end his life. Instead he does something epically stupid: he shoots the oil pipeline that crosses the state and overnight becomes a most wanted criminal, hunted by the FBI.

> Selection CANNES l'Atelier 2019, Winner International Context Grant Dutch Film Fund

2021 / IJswater Films, FICTION PARK (DE) / 100' / Feature Film
Co-Writer & Director

The Man from Rome

A sceptical priest is sent by the Vatican to investigate and debunk a crying statue of the Virgin Mary in a traumatized border community in Limburg.

Other Relevant Experiences

1996 – 1998 Theaterwerkplaats ODE as an actor.

1999 – 2000 televideo. worked as cameraman, editor and director for this Burkina Faso based TV production company.

2002 – 2015 co-founded Semfilms Burkina Faso, platform for young filmmakers, that organises the filmfestival CinéDroitLibre and trains and funds young filmmakers in West-Africa.

2007 taught classes on Story & Form in documentary filmmaking at the Dutch Filmacademy.

2012 – 2016 Mediafund Advisor, analyzing proposals for fiction films & series.