

Coco Schrijber

FILMS (selection)

HOW TO MEET A MERMAID

2016

In an essay-like reflection on the beauty and destructive power of the ocean, Coco Schrijber investigates the disappearance of her brother Lex. Selected for IDFA Competition Feature Length & Best Dutch Documentary. Finalist AWFJ EDA Award for Best Female-directed Film.

BLOODY MONDAYS & STRAWBERRY PIES

2008

BLOODY MONDAYS & STRAWBERRY PIES is a movie about boredom and the ability to do nothing. The intriguing emotion boredom that can either be positive and negative forces us to think about why we do what we do.

A WORTHLESS FAIRY TALE

2005

Norms and values seem to be a very tale, at least for the government and the so called establishment. Governments and business act as they please and breaking the rules as they please. In contrast to the bottom of the society in the Netherlands like the junkies, criminals and prostitutes who do keep to their views about good and evil.

FIRST KILL

2001

Stories about war usually deal with the atrocities of battle, or with heroism and companionship. In this film, another aspect of the phenomenon is laid bare: the attraction of legitimate destruction. Vietnam veterans tell about their experiences and traumas, but also about their triumphs. One of them admits that he has done terrible things, but he still longs to get back to the killing. Another man compares fighting to a rush that is better than any drug. The central figure of this film is the former war correspondent and scriptwriter Michael Herr (FULL METAL JACKET), who has written a bestseller about the allure of war, entitled DISPATCHES. He puts into words the unbearable reality of the things that we humans are capable of and can even enjoy, raising the alarming question: is there a murderer lurking inside each of us?

IN MOTION

1996

When he was 14 years old, David S. Ware, saxophone player from New York, played with Sonny Rollins. When he was twenty-five he performed in Carnegie Hall. At the peak of this spectacular and meteoric career he swapped his life in the spotlights for a job as a cab driver. The film makes the influence of the speeding traffic on Ware's music tangible.

AWARDS

2008 – 2009

BLOODY MONDAYS & STRAWBERRY PIES

- Golden Calf best feature documentary
- Special Mention It's All True, Brazil
- Best Film, IFF Monterrey, Mexico
- Best Editing, IFF Monterrey, Mexico
- Audience Award Int FF Kosovo
- Stimulance for artistic success Dutch Film Fund 25.000€
- Nomination WHF Award International Leipzig Festival For Documentary
- Nomination Golden Frog, Camerimage, Lodz, Poland

- Nomination Image and Sound (Beeld en Geluid) the Netherlands
- Dutch entry for the Oscars

2006

The annual special film commission of the Amsterdam Fund for the Arts was assigned to Coco Schrijber for the film A WORTHLESS FAIRY TALE.

2005

WONDERFUL WORLD	The Big Issue Prize (€ 7500)	Glasgow, Scotland
WONDERFUL WORLD	Best director	Granada, Spain
WONDERFUL WORLD	Best Film	Brussel, Belgium
WONDERFUL WORLD	Special Jury award	Houston, Texas
WONDERFUL WORLD	Special Festival Award	Tui, Spain
WONDERFUL WORLD	Special Jury Award	San Francisco, US
WONDERFUL WORLD	Nomination Best European	FilmSyracuse, US

2001

FIRST KILL	Dutch Press Prize	Dutch Film Festival
FIRST KILL	Best Film	IFF One World, Kosovo
FIRST KILL	Honourable mention	Volda, Norway

1998

NOT BIG, NOT SMALL	The Golden Statue fiction	VPRO Youth non fiction
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1996

IN MOTION	First Prize Rome	Villa Celimontana,
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The press about FIRST KILL

New York Times: Deservedly, this film has won several awards at international film festivals. It is smartly and superbly filmed, conceived, and edited. A cry of concern, it is a stunningly beautiful work about the most terrifying of subjects.

The Guardian: Director Coco Schrijber appears out of nowhere. Her feeling for rhythm and editing skills reveal an extraordinary film instinct. The guts with which Ms. Schrijber approaches her subject makes it clear we have an eminent new filmmaker at hand.

The press about WONDERFUL WORLD

New York Syracuse: The film feels as if it were found in a library of rare books ready to once again be appreciated for the magical world it spins. This is simply put a fabulous film, beautifully shot and with an absolute wonderful use of music that functions both as drama and leitmotiv. A must see film.

Glasgow, Scotland: WONDERFUL WORLD won the Films4Lives award for its original, challenging and creative representation of homelessness. It stood out due to its beautifully shot and carefully crafted images, which lovingly portray a vision of beauty in an unfamiliar setting. The film is an excellent example of how the medium can be used to give voice to people and ideas that are not heard in the mainstream, challenging the audience to reassess their own assumptions and prejudices.