

## BIOGRAPHY & FILMOGRAPHY

# ORLOW SEUNKE

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Orlow Seunke graduated *cum laude* from the Netherlands Film & Television Academy in Amsterdam, in 1975. His debut feature film as a young director, **“The Taste of Water”**, won the prestigious Golden Lion at the Venice Film Festival in 1982. The same festival also awarded him the UNICEF Critics Award. Soon after, other awards followed; the Bronze Hugo Award at the Chicago Film Festival, the Critics Award at the Toronto Film Festival, and the Dutch Critics Award, all in the year 1982. The film was released in a number of countries.

In 1985, Mr. Seunke directed his next feature film, **“Pervola”**. Among many awards that the film received, one was for Best Dutch Film of 1985, chosen by an international jury of the International Film Festival Rotterdam. In the next four years Mr. Seunke turned to producing a number of short films and animations. From 1989 to 1992, he was also a lecturer at the Jakarta Arts Institute, for brief periods of time (4 months each year).

After the commercial success of **“Tropic of Emerald”** in 1997, Mr. Seunke worked as a screenwriter for television films in the Netherlands. Five years later, he decided to leave for Jakarta and make the city his permanent residence. His reputation was quickly acknowledged in his new surroundings. He gave a masterclass workshop on scriptwriting to four young Indonesian professional scriptwriters. He also continued to teach at the Jakarta Arts Institute.

Mr. Seunke acted as Director of the Jakarta International Film Festival (JiFFest), from 2004 to 2006. Under his direction, the struggling festival steadily increased its audience as well as attracted more international filmmakers. Some critics note that under his vision, JiFFest was quick to become one of the prominent cultural events in the region. After resigning from his position as Director, he is now producing several film projects under the banner of ECCO Films Indonesia.

## FILMOGRAPHY

### 1982

#### **“The Taste of Water”** (100 min., 35 mm)

Winner of the Golden Lion 1982 at the Venice Film Festival for the best debut

UNICEF Critics Award, Venice 1982

Bronze Hugo Award, Chicago Film Festival 1982

Critics Award, Toronto Film Festival 1982

Dutch Critics Award, 1982

Distributed in Holland by Movies/Meteor Film Distribution

Sold and released in many countries throughout the world

### 1985

#### **“Pervola”** (95 min., 35 mm)

Selected for the official programme of the Venice Film Festival 1985

Winner of the CIAK Audience Award, Venice 1985

Dutch Critics' Prize, Dutch Film Days 1985

Special Jury Prize, Dutch Film Days 1985

Best Dutch Film 1985, chosen by an international jury during Film International

Rotterdam 1986

Distribution in Holland by Cannon-City Film Distribution

Sold and released in many countries throughout the world.

### 1986-1990

- Produced and directed: a short documentary of 7 minutes **“North-Holland”**.

- Produced: a 7-minute animation film **“A Little Night Music”** directed by Maarten Koopman. This film has been screened at numerous festivals and sold to TV stations throughout the world. Won the 1st prize of the children-jury on the Film Festival of Berlin 1989.

- Produced: a short (3-minute) drama **“Femme Fatale”** directed by Ingrid Calame.

- Produced: a 20-minute documentary about the Netherlands **“Holland Wonderland”**, co-directed with Ingrid Calame.

- Produced: a 1-minute animation film **“The Bedroom of Vincent van Gogh”** directed by Maarten Koopman. During the Cannes Film Festival 1990 this film was awarded the Jury Prize for the best short film.

### 1991

#### **“Oh Boy!”** (89 min., 35 mm)

Distribution in Holland by Concorde Film

### 1992/1993

- Produced: a 1-minute animation film **“The 4 Seasons”** directed by Maarten Koopman. This film was selected for the Cannes Film Festival 1993.

- Produced: a 10 minute animation film **“Bon Appetit!”** directed by Maarten Koopman.  
At the Dutch Film Festival 1993 nominated for a Golden Calf in the category short film.

## 1994

- Produced: **“Opus Dei”**, a 7-minute animation film directed by Cecile Noldus.  
- Produced: **“10 Famous Paintings”**, 10 animation films of 1-minute directed by Maarten Koopman.

## 1995

**“German or Siberia”** (52 min., Super 16 mm)

TV single-play, written by Mieke de Jong

Broadcast November 1995 by Dutch broadcaster NPS-TV.

September 1996 chosen as Best TV-Drama of the television-season 1995-96.

## 1996

**“Tropic of Emerald”** (125 min., 35 mm)

Three months shooting for a feature film; at the same time extra material was shot for a mini-series of 3x 50 minutes.

Released in October 1997 and run successfully for over 20 weeks in the cinemas.

The TV-series was broadcasted at the end of 1999 on Dutch television (NPS).

Nominated Best TV Series at the BANFF World Television Festival 2000.

## 1999

**“Cheese”** (86 min., 16 mm)

Television film based on the Dutch Classic 'Cheese' by Willem Elsschot.

Broadcasted in December on Dutch television (NPS).

## 2008

Produced **“Jermal”** (90 min., 35 mm)

A film by Ravi Bharwani, Rayya Makarim and Utawa Tresno.

Also credited as scriptwriter and editor.

Official Selection in Pusan International Film Festival 2008, in the “A Window on Asian Cinema” section