



She Loves Working In Front of the Camera and Behind

Alexandra Dahlström became a national celebrity at age 14 for her role as Elin in *Show Me Love*. Now after ten years, she can call herself an actress as well as a director, and she is already working on her third short film.

- It's about very young people and a very intense joy, Alexandra says on the phone from Gothenburg, where she is attending the city's film festival which just screened *Kom Hit!*
- It went well. I'm proud of it, but it's always a bit nerve wracking when you have screenings.

The first time she directed was in high school when she and a friend set-up *Madea*. Work on the script took four months, but the play was a success and drew in a lot of money for the upcoming school trip. Then it took a few years before she resumed the director role. Last year, she made her first film *Lacrimosa*.

- It was an entirely self-funded short film. Me and a friend who is a cinematographer flew down to Rome with a super 8 camera. The film went directly to the 1km film section of the festival, and I thought that it was absolutely perfect! It was more fun than anything else I've done in my life.



When Alexandra was little she never dreamed of becoming an actor but was pretty sure she wanted to do something different. But the breakthrough as Elin in *Show Me Love* has spun on. Now combining her acting with directing she says it works great and did not want to choose something right away.

- As an actor, you're more someone else's instrument, and as a director, you are involved in the process from the start and have a more comprehensive picture. But I love acting and cannot live without it.

She points out that as a director, it is important to know what to do, but also be sensitive to your employees. The fact that she's worked in various parts of the industry is a big advantage.

- I think it has given me a different starting point as a director. I've been on so many recordings, so I know when they are good and when they are not so good.

Something that distinguishes Alexandra from many other filmmakers is her insight into teenagers today. And she says she is very fond of young people.

- It produces a lot of tenderness when you see them. There is something very unspoiled when you are young. And everything is on a knife's edge. It's that kind of huge emotional roller coaster and it's so lovely.

But she adds that she also likes adulthood.

- There is a totally different weight to it. And as an adult, you can enjoy more of the mountains and landscape.



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