

ALEXANDRA DAHLSTRÖM

Now that I have read through the Plaza Kvinna June 2009 issue, I came across this article with Alexandra Dahlström. She was in my favorite movie of the late 90's, *Fucking Åmål*. So I thought I'd write down what little I could read about her.

Forward. Upward. Furthermore. She broke through as a 14-year-old and is already a veteran in the film industry. Now Alexandra Dahlström is taking a new step with a supporting role in this summer's blockbuster movie *Mañana* - and as an award-winning director. Meet Sweden's most creative 25-year-old. In the midst of cutting through the wind.

The article is written by Friday Boisen.

We stand outside the restaurant Grodan. Open the door; turn left towards the restaurant section instead of the bar to the right. We end up in a fantastic room. With chandeliers, wood paneling, white tablecloths and oil paintings on the walls.

- How lucky we came here! Oh, how beautiful! Says Alexandra and lets her eyes take in the decorated walls properly.

So she feels. In love to find something special in life. In love with the spontaneous. The forward movement. Playing along, hoping to stumble across magic. And she does.

Memories of Alexandra's acclaimed short film, *Kom Hit!* which won the 1km film scholarship at the Stockholm Film Festival are playing in my mind. Stunning photography, wonderful moods. A promise that Alexandra has much more to share. So much more to share.

Her creativity is unique, and her beauty is dazzling. When we look at the cover art taking shape on a cloudy afternoon, we are surprised by how much Alexandra looks like Scarlett Johansson.

It is inspiring to hear Alexandra's stories about how she was already at age 13, between takes on *Fucking Åmål*, directing people and the lighting and said things like "here we will have romantic candles." Instead of just hanging out in the dressing room. Even though she was born with an interest in film making, she dreamed to maybe one day become a director.

Alexandra was just a child when she got the lead role in Lukas Moodysson's unforgettable hit film *Show Me Love*. At that time she lived in an apartment in Bromma with her self-employed mother who was in executive recruitment and her dad who worked in plumbing. When

Alexandra got her first starring role, it was a combination of following the wind and catching the moment.

- At the time, my friends and breaks were the important thing. The film crew came to my school and all my friends went. I had never been in theater; it just worked out really well.

Did you have confidence at the time?

- Honestly, when I was little I had delusions of grandeur. I always thought I would become something very, very big. I was convinced. Therefore, it was very important to me to save my diaries because they might be important to the world, haha. I was reading Anne Frank then, I think that was why.

You reached the top very quickly.

- I have never wavered in my confidence about how I am as a professional. I've always known that I have some kind of talent. I do not have full control of my instruments, but I'm pretty technical because I've been working for quite some time. I've always liked to act, but I did not devote myself entirely because I didn't think it was enough intellectually.

It is noticeable that Alexandra really nourished the word "intellectual" as something worthwhile. And important.

What is most important to you?

- Above all, I like movement. Forward movement. When things are not static or there is a desire to reach forward.

What was the best career advice you received?

- I have a foster mom for fun, a good friend, she said: "The only and the best tip I can give you is to go on feeling. Follow your heart and you will find your way." My real mother was always strong and fearless, and her advice was to not care so much about what others think. Dad's advice is to benefit greatly from being kind. I think it's good advice, especially right now, when everyone is elbowing their way to become the center of attention.

What makes you really proud?

- When things are going well for my friends or someone I love. Then I can get so damn happy. I was proud of my mom the other day, when she sold the apartment. My parents are moving to Spain. At

first I thought it was sad to have them so far away, but then I was proud and happy, says Alexandra and beams.



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