

Anna Maria Cianciulli - Biography

Originally from Florence, Italy, Anna Maria has been living and working as an actress, director and teacher in New York since the early 90s.

In November 2019 she played the role of Queen Gertrude of Denmark in a feature film adaptation of Shakespeare's Hamlet. Directed by Paul Warner, written by David Vando, and produced by David Wenzel, "Hamlet/Horatio" will be released theatrically later in 2020. A rough cut of the first 15 minutes of the film was submitted to film festivals and won Best Film at: Los Angeles Film Awards, New York Cinematography Awards and Southeast Regional Film Festival. The rough cut also won Best Experimental Film at the Rome Independent Prisma Awards, among others (2020).

Her solo-created short movie "33 Breaths" shot during Covid-19 in New York is currently streaming on online quarantine film festivals.

Anna has produced, co-written, and coached the actors on set of "Life After Her," a 30 minutes film shot in New York, winner of the Platinum Award at the NYC Indie Film Awards 2017. The film has been selected by the Short Corner of the Cannes Film Festival (May 2017) and has also received an Honorable Mention from the Rochester International Film Festival. It has at the Madrid International Film Festival where it received a nomination for Best Original Screenplay and Best Actress in a Lead Role.

Anna's film Stay has been included in the Official Selections of the Manhattan Film Festival, the Central Florida Film Festival, The NewFilmmakers New York in 2014, and has received a Special Mention from the Ouchy Film Awards Winter 2016.

Anna has received a Nomination for Best Actress from the International Festival of Cinema and Technology, and in 2015 she has acted a principal role in Stealing Chanel film distributed by Lifetime Network.

She was honored by Sanford Meisner with the exclusive rights to edit the Italian edition of Sanford Meisner On Acting - La recitazione - published in Italy in 2007 by Dino Audino Books.

Anna Maria has played several leading and major roles on New York City stages including the Joyce Soho; St. Peter Church; The Kitchen; Access Theatre; The Equitable Building Auditorium; Theatre for the New City, American Museum of Natural History, Shetler Theater 54, as well as acting in Dinner Party, starring Brian Dennehy; and in a special event created for Roberto Benigni, Inferno Gala. As a film actress she was also directed by Susan Batson in What Goes Around Comes Around, and in 2012, she was honored to play opposite Tony Danza during his private rehearsals and preparing for his role in Joseph Gordon Levitt's film Don Jon.

As a theater director/choreographer her work has been daring and experimental, and has been seen at the Vanderbilt Hall of Grand Central Station, The Players Club, and Shetler Theatre 54. From 1999 to 2004 she has been the Artistic Director of BdA the arts [enter], a theatre-film laboratory in New York that has co-produced with BAM, The Kitchen, with Domenica Cameron-Scorsese, Kevin Bacon and Michael Bacon.

In 2006 Anna was a member of the Tribeca Film Festival Committee-Rome, established to coordinate a cultural partnership between the Tribeca Film Festival and the Rome Film Festival for the first edition of the Roman festival, including the Steps and Stars Award received by Robert De Niro. She has also produced Discovering the New Italian Cinema - film festival presented at the Quad Cinema.

As a film director Anna's credits also include The War in Heaven and Bedtime.

Since 1992 she has been an Acting Instructor at The Acting Studio New York Inc., James Price, Artistic Director - and is currently a Senior Instructor at the New York Film Academy (NYFA) in New York City, she also has taught and directed international programs for NYFA in Italy, Hungary, and in the United Arab Emirates.

As an Acting Coach, Anna has consulted with Domenica Cameron-Scorsese, Kick Kennedy, Alessandra Mastronardi (To Rome With Love, Woody Allen) and Santigold. In 2012 she was the on-set acting coach of Yelo, a short film directed by Adrien Boublil, which premiered in Cannes 2013.

In 2004 the United States have honored Ms. Cianciulli with a Green Card (permanent residence status) based on special achievements in performing arts. Since 2010 she is an American citizen.