

# The day my Father became a Bush

a film by NICOLE VAN KILSDONK



based on the book by  
**JOKE VAN LEEUWEN**



LEMING FILM PRESENTERT IN CO-PRODUCTIE MET MINDS MEET, NUKLEUS FILM, A PRIVATE VIEW EN EO MET CELESTE HOLSHEIMER, MATSEN MONTSMA, TEUN KUILBOER, ANNEKE BLOK, NOORTJE HERLAAR, SUSAN VISSER, ELSKE FALKENA, ANNA VAN KEIMPEMA, JANUSZ GOSSCHALK, SHIRA HALEVI, FAY MÜLLER, NIKICA KEKIC, GREGG TELUSSA, IVO VAN VELJACA, JOHAN IVENS, SNIJEZANA GORUP, MONICA PETTI, ZORANA MEIC, HRVODJE PETEK, JAN SCHERMER, RUTGER REINDERS, DAVID VERDURME, BEN BOUWMEESTER, ELSEMUN TEUJINGS, JACOMIEN NIJHOF, TOMAS LEYERS, SINISA JURICIC, DRIES PHILYPPO, JEAN-CLAUDE VAN RUCKEGHEM, TOEN MIJN VADER EEN STRUIK WERD VAN JOKE VAN LEEUWEN, EM, QUERIDO'S KINDERBOEKENUTGEVERIJ, FLEUR WINTERS, EVA EISENLOEFFEL, LEONTINE PETIT, JOOST DE VRIES, MAUREEN VERSPRILLE, NICOLE VAN KILSDONK, NICOLE VAN KILSDONK

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lemming film, Minds Meet, Nukleus Film, A Private View, EO, Celeste Holsheimer, Matsen Montsma, Teun Kuilboer, Anneke Blok, Noortje Herlaar, Susan Visser, Elske Falkena, Anna van Keimpema, Janusz Gosschalk, Shira Halevi, Fay Müller, Nikica Kekic, Gregg Telussa, Ivo van Veljaca, Johan Ivens, Snježana Gorup, Monica Petti, Zorana Meic, Hrvodje Petek, Jan Schermer, Rutger Reinders, David Verdurme, Ben Bouwmeester, Elsemun Teujings, Jacomien Nijhof, Tomas Leyers, Sinisa Juricic, Dries Philyppe, Jean-Claude van Ruckeghem, Toen mijn vader een struik werd van Joke van Leeuwen, Em, Querido's Kinderboekenutgeverij, Fleur Winters, Eva Eisenloeffel, Leontine Petit, Joost de Vries, Maureen Versprille, Nicole van Kilsdonk, Nicole van Kilsdonk

**Director** Nicole van Kilsdonk  
**DoP** Gregg Telussa N.S.C  
**Cast** Celeste Holsheimer  
Matsen Montsma  
Teun Kuilboer  
Noortje Herlaar  
Anneke Blok  
Susan Visser  
**Genre** Family  
**Language** German  
**Length** 94 min  
**Produced by** Lemming Film in co-production with Nukleus  
Film, A Private View and Minds Meet



## THE DAY MY FATHER BECAME A BUSH

### SYNOPSIS

Ten-year-old Toda lives in a bakery with her dad, the best pastry chef in town. Toda knows everything there is to know about cakes and pastries and loves it when her dad plays the trumpet. But one day, everything changes: her dad is called away unexpectedly to defend his country. Toda has to undertake an adventurous and challenging journey to the unknown neighbouring country where her mother lives in order to stay safe. On the way she meets strange people, encounters absurd situations and finds a special new friend. Toda is a bright, optimistic and resilient girl who doesn't give up easily, but will she eventually find her mum?

### THE DIRECTOR

Nicole van Kilsdonk (1965) graduated in 1987 at the Academy of Journalism. In 1991 she graduated at the Dutch Film and Television Academy for Direction and Screenplay with her film *Post Reykjavik*. She directed a few documentaries for Ireen van Ditshuijzen, but soon decided to direct - and write - fiction. She worked on a lot of television films like *Man, Vrouw, Hondje*; *Ochtendzwemmers*; *Polonaise*; *Deining* (Dutch Oscar for Best TV Drama 2004); *Zadelpijn* and *Sekjoeritie*.

In 2006 she directed the children's serial *De taxi van Palem*, which was shot in Surinam. Afterwards she directed 4 feature films: *Johan* (Best Director Film Fest Palm Beach, 2005) and *How To Survive* (Audience Award Film Festival Giffoni, 2008), *Richting West* and *Taking Chances* (Cinekid Award for Best Film, 2011).

More recently, Nicole directed *Ventoux* and *The Day My Father Became a Bush*, based on the book of the same name by award-winning author Joke van Leeuwen.

