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## MANUELA COUTO

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# MANUELA COUTO

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Manuela Couto (b. Setúbal, February, 17<sup>th</sup>, 1964), started her professional career in 1982 at the same time as she entered the National Conservatory. Straight after graduating she joins one of Portugal's most respected companies – Comuna Teatro de Pesquisa, where she stays for 15 years, performing in over forty productions, touring nationwide and abroad.

In cinema she worked with Portuguese directors Jorge Silva Melo, José Nascimento, Cláudia Varejão, Tiago Guedes, Frederico Serra, António Pedro Vasconcelos, Leonel Vieira, Vicente Alves do Ó, and with Spanish director Marcel Barrena.

In 2002 she starts to be a regular appearance on national TV, on series, telenovelas, and TV movies, not only as an actor but also as a cast director.

She taught drama at Lusófona University and at NBA (Nicolau Breyner Academia) and was the Head of the Casting Department for Plural Entertainment in 2009/2010.

In 1992 she received the “Prémio Sete de Ouro” award for best newcomer actor in theatre, for her role in João Mota's version of John Ford's “Pity she's a whore”.

In 2006 she receives the prize for best Cinema Personality from “Lux Magazine” for her part in Tiago Guedes and Frederico Serra's film “Coisa Ruim” (“Bad Blood”). Both in 2005 and 2006 she was nominated for a Portuguese Golden Globe in the categories of Theatre and Cinema.

In 2006 she received the Medal of Honour of her hometown Setúbal, for her role in the Cultural scene.