

Biography - Hera Lind

Hera Lind was born in Bielefeld, the daughter of a doctor and a music teacher. After leaving school, she studied theology and German at Cologne University where she graduated in 1981.

She won a prestigious singing competition ("Bundeswettbewerb Gesang") in Berlin in 1979 and started her musical training in Cologne and Düsseldorf in parallel to her other studies. She went on to complete advanced courses in Salzburg, Vienna and Stuttgart and finally passed her concert exams – with distinction – in operatic and oratoria performance in 1989.

She became a permanent member of the Cologne Radio Choir in 1982 bringing her talent and enthusiasm to bear for the next 14 years. She also built a reputation across Europe as a soloist and undertook concert tours of Israel, Japan and South America.

She says it was boredom which drove her to write her first novel in 1988 while she was pregnant with her first child. The book, *A Man For Every Key* (Ein Mann für jede Tonart), became a bestseller with two million copies flying off the shelves. It was made into a film starring Katja Riemann, Uwe Ochsenknecht and Gudrun Landgrebe and spent three months in cinemas across Germany.

She wrote a follow-up novel, *It Requires Little to to be a Woman* (Frau zu sein bedarf es wenig), in 1990 during her second pregnancy. This also went on to be a bestseller and was made into a film – this time by ZDF (German national television).

Her third bestseller, *Super Broad* (Das Superweib), followed in 1994 and sold three million copies – her breakthrough as a writer. It was brought to the screen by Sönke Wortmann (director) and Bernd Eichinger (producer) in 1996 and was one of the most successful films of the year. The stellar cast included Veronica Ferres, Heiner Lauterbach, Joachim Król and Liselotte Pulver.

Hera Lind's fourth book, *The Enchanting Woman* (Die Zauberfrau), was also turned into a film starring Iris Berben and Martin Benrath.

Following the birth of her third child, she began hosting her own talk show for ZDF, *Hera Lind and People* (Hera Lind und Leute). The show was a great success and ran for the next two years.

Hera Lind published her first children's book in 1997, *The Day I Was Dad* (Der Tag, an dem ich Papa war). The book was also made into a film starring Thomas Heinze.

Together with her best friend, the soprano singer Marion Schoeller, and members of the Hamburg Radio Symphony Orchestra she produced a CD featuring her favourite arias and songs in the summer of 1997. The CD was released by EMI.

Hera Lind's fifth bestseller, *The Chicks Nest* (Das Weibernest), was also filmed for an ARD (German national television) series entitled *Great Women* (Lauter tolle Frauen) and starred Susanne Uhlen, Nadja Tiller and Dana Vávrová – and proved a great hit. Shortly after the birth of her fourth child, she was invited to take over as host of the hit show *Blind Date* (Herzblatt). She presented the show very successfully for a year then decided she wanted to spend more time with her family and working at home.

A sixth book followed, *The Rented Man* (Der gemietete Mann), and sold millions of copies. The film rights were

snapped up by Berlin producer Oliver Berben.

Hera Lind broke into a new literary genre in 2000 with her next book, *Cruisin' for a Bruisin' (Mord an Bord)* – moving from page-turners for women to satirical thrillers. The book was made into a film starring Barbara Wussow and broadcast in 2002. 2000 also saw the release of a CD of songs and ballads written by Hera Lind, *You will never be a lady (Du wirst nie eine Dame)*.

Hera Lind's eighth novel, *High-Class Chicks (Hochglanzweiber)*, was published in 2001 and drew upon her own experience of the media world. The film rights were secured by Berlin producer Regina Ziegler.

Her ninth novel, *The Double Herbert (Der doppelte Lothar)*, published in 2002, is an e-mail story with the emphasis on fun and chills. In its first six months alone, 600,000 copies were sold and the book was translated for the US market.

Hera Lind's next children's book, *Greta Wants To Know (Greta will's wissen)* was published in 2006 by Copenrath.

The novel *Charlotte's Detour (Karla's Umweg)* was published in 2005. It is the amusing story of a young woman who gets taken advantage of until she finally blows her top.

The novel *The Champaign Diet (Die Champagner-Diät)* was published in hardback by the Diana Verlag in spring 2006. The story of Eva, an overweight housewife who is left by her husband then loses weight and finally finds happiness, sent Hera Lind to the top of the bestsellers list once again in 2006.

Hera Lind's novel *Spinning (Schleuderprogramm)* was published in autumn 2007. It is the story of an opera diva who loses her heart to a new love – then loses everything she owns as a result and has to start again from scratch. The book is destined to become a bestseller since Hera Lind has drawn so much of her inspiration from her own fascinating life.

The film rights of her novels *The Champaign Diet* and *Spinning* are already sold.

Heart Driven (Herzgesteuert) which appeared in autumn 2008 at Diana it's also available as audio book.

Her latest novel *The Succuess Ploy (Die Erfolgsmasche)* which will be published in autumn 2009 it's a wonderfully funny novel about little white lies, big feelings and quite a lot of luck.

Hera Lind's books have sold over 13 million copies to date and have been translated into 17 languages.

She is also patron of a national neuro-dermatitis campaign and ambassador of the German José Carreras Leukemia Foundation (www.carreras-stiftung.de).

She enjoys jogging and somehow finds time to run 15 km every day. She uses her "WomanPower seminars" to pass on what she has learned from running and Pilates.

Hera Lind is a mother of four and lives with her family in Salzburg. Recently, she launched the company "Storyline", which is specialized in the management of future authors.