

Helena Marrion-Cole Bio

Helena Marrion-Cole is an actress and screenwriter from London, represented by Daniel Scharf at Profile Creative. She is based in Melbourne. A recent highlight was winning Best Actor at Sydney Web Fest 2024 for her leading role in *Alina*, the web series. The series is about a Romanian immigrant in the UK being trafficked by her abusive boyfriend. Helena was also nominated for Best Actor at Melbourne Web Fest 2024.

Helena wrote and directed *Pretty When I'm Drunk* (UK tour 2011-2012), a comedic stage play about a lazy stoner who gets mistaken for a criminal mastermind at a strip club. The play sold out at the Little Leeds and Camden Fringes, and received 5-star reviews from *Leeds Student Paper* and *Three Weeks Edinburgh* (Edinburgh Festival Fringe).

During her theatre studies at University of Leeds, Helena gained experience at New Hall Women's Prison facilitating theatre workshops to inmates. She later directed drama workshops with ex-offenders and individuals at-risk of offending at Only Connect in Kings Cross, London, and assisted at Cardboard Citizens, a theatre company for homeless and displaced people in Whitechapel, London.

Helena co-starred in and wrote the Gas Money Production film, *Eb and Flo*, which won the Gold Award at the Independent Short Awards, Los Angeles (2019), Best Woman Short at IndieX Film Festival, Los Angeles (2019), Honourable Mention Award at One-Reeler Short Film Competition, Los Angeles (2019), and Award of Merit at Vegas Movie Awards (2020). The film was also nominated for Best Original Screenplay at Indie X Festival (2019).

Helena is currently developing her Melbourne set feature screenplay *Maggot Boy*, produced by Daniel Scharf. The story delves into the complexities of a toxic relationship using dramatic devices that explore patterns of manipulation. The plot follows a heartbroken heroin dealer who is sentenced to community service, where she encounters an awkward man with a dark past. Her twisted plan emerges to introduce him to her former lover, the owner of Melbourne's largest underground brothel. The film incorporates metaphors to subtly explore complex themes of feminism and sex worker's rights, while exposing elements of manipulation, misogyny, and addiction.

Helena produced and presented her own short documentary, *Notting Hill Carnival: What it Means for Community and Culture* (2018). In this film, she explores London's renowned Notting Hill Carnival, the second-largest carnival globally after Rio De Janeiro, drawing up to 2 million attendees annually. A television enthusiast and aspiring presenter, Helena also previously worked at ITV television studios in London as a researcher and runner.

Helena starred in the comedy short film *Funemployed* (2017), which was an official selection at the London Short Film Festival and was selected by director and actor Anna Biller as Shooting People's Film of The Month. Other recent acting credits include voice work for *The Portable Door* (2023) on Stan and Sky, and the short film *Get to The Wire* (2023), which was screened at the Melbourne Women in Film Festival (2024).

