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Malin B. Erikson

Intimacy Coordinator

About the role: Intimacy Coordinator

For many of the international production companies (HBO, Netflix, Amazon, etc.), it has become more the rule than the exception to use an Intimacy Coordinator for scenes containing some form of intimacy. In the wake of #metoo, awareness has also increased and responsibility for the safety and well-being of actors and teams has been taken to a greater extent than before. In Sweden, it is still relatively new, but more and more Producers are seeing the great benefits of having an intimacy coordinator on the team.

As an intimacy coordinator, you work closely with the director and actors in all scenes that have some form of intimacy in them. Just as a stunt coordinator would work with a scene containing falls, fights or some form of risk-taking.

The intimacy coordinator has overall responsibility for the intimate scenes and is available throughout the process, from breaking down scripts, talking and planning with the director, choreographing and rehearsing with the actors, participating on set and being there to support actors, director and team. By choreographing the scene and breaking it down in detail, it creates security for the actors and space to deepen their character work while at the same time minimizing the risks of crossing boundaries or creating discomfort.

So when should you bring in an Intimacy Coordinator?

If a scene contains simulated sex or nudity, you should always have an intimacy coordinator attached to the project.

Biography:

Malin introduced intimacy coordination to Sweden in August 2019 as Sweden's first intimacy coordinator after training with pioneer Ita O'Brien. For a year, Malin continued as a student at Ita O'Brien and today meets international standards and Sag-Aftra's requirements for expertise, training and experience in accordance with the Intimacy Coordinator Standards and Protocols.

As a pioneer in Sweden, a large part of Malin's work is about spreading knowledge in the field of intimacy on stage, TV and film, which she often does through lectures, workshops and panel discussions of various kinds.

Before Malin trained as an intimacy coordinator, she worked as a performing arts director and acting educator. For over 20 years she has lived and worked in Asia, North Africa and Europe. Movement, body shape, emotions and stage presence have always been central parts of her work. She has studied Actor Training and Coaching (master) and directing at the Royal Central School of Speech and Drama (RCSS), Dramaturgy at RADA and Pedagogy (Bachelor of Science) at Umeå University. Malin is a co-founder of the Nordic Intimacy Coordinators (NIC) and The Intimacy Practitioners' Guild (IPG) and is today part of a network of intimacy coordinators from different parts of the world.

Directors Jesper Ganslandt, Alexis Almström, Annika Appelin, Ella Lemhagen, Mikael Marcimain, Goran Kapetanovic, Mattias Skoglund, Måns Månsson

Production Companies SF Studios, Nexiko, Filmlance International, Anagram, Misofilm, Appletree productions, B-Reel Films

Features Vinterviken 2021, Tisdagsklubben

TV/Series Händelser vid vatten, Knutby, Lust, Deg, Snabba Cash

On Stage Blod, svett & tårar (Riksteatern), Farliga förbindelser (Uppsala Stadsteater), Tystnaden (Göteborgs Stadsteater), Min fantastiska väninna (Stockholm Stadsteater)

WORKFLOW

INTIMACY COORDINATION

1	Preparation	Reading script	Script breakdown	Identifying intimate scenes		
2	Liaison between actor/production	Meeting with production: line producer, 1st AD, production manager etc.	Meeting with director: storytelling and artistic vision	Workshop or meeting with cast and/or crew: general information about intimacy coordination. Best practice and on set etiquette.	Individual meeting with actors: storytelling, artistic vision, personal and professional boundaries.	
3	Protocols	Risk assessment for each individual scene	Writing a nudity rider for producer and actor to sign before shooting day (if production hasn't done this already)	Sending out closed set protocols to go out with the call sheet	Keeping a log book	
4	Collaboration with departments	Make-up merkins, tattoos, makeup, hair etc.	Wardrobe, costume, modesty garments, robes between takes etc.	Props & set design	Any other necessary dept.	
5	Rehearsal	Exercise: agreement of touch before rehearsal	Choreography of the intimacy scene. Movement and touch based on actor's consent	Written documentation of the choreography	Use of barriers if needed	Exercise: closure after rehearsal
6	On set	Ensure implementation of closed set protocols & nudity riders	Agreement of touch before going on set	Facilitate closed rehearsal with actor, director and DoP before technical rehearsal	Ensure that the rehearsed choreography is followed	Check with actors between takes Closure after the scene has been filmed
7	Aftercare postproduction	Checking in with actors after 2-3 days	Further follow up if needed	Report back to production if further action needs to be taken	If the actor requests; verify that the scene is consistent with the agreement	