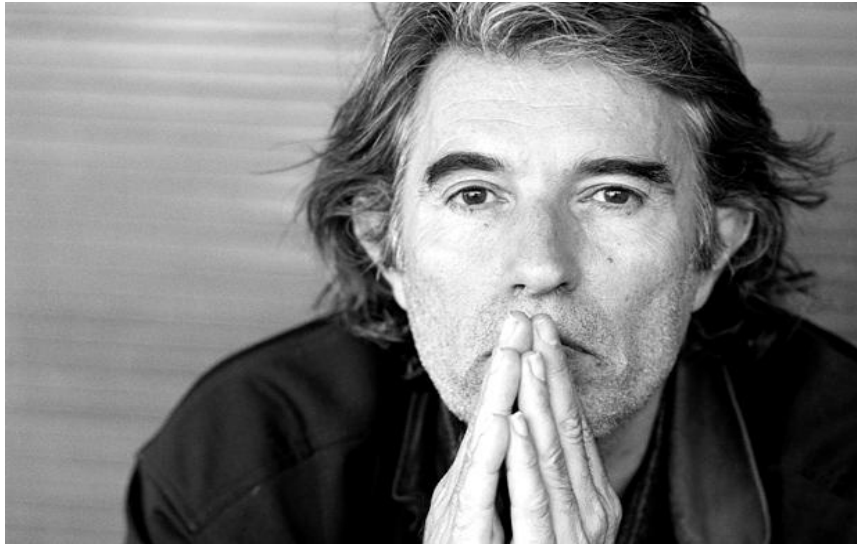


Jacques Doillon's Biography



A remarkably humanistic writer/director whose introspective features often dwell on youthful malaise, French filmmaker Jacques Doillon has an uncanny knack for exploring human nature and the impact of people's actions on those most dear to them. Perhaps it was his penchant for directing documentary shorts early on that gave Doillon his insight, but by the time he moved into feature territory in the early '70s he had suitably mastered the ability to tell a solid and affecting story. In 1979, Doillon was nominated for two César awards for his compelling psychological drama *The Hussy*, and his 1984 film *La Pirate* was a Golden Palm nominee at the Cannes Film Festival. By the 1990s, Doillon's career had gained effective momentum. His 1990 film *Le Petit Criminel*, which told the involving tale of a troubled adolescent, was nominated for multiple César awards. After his success with film *Le Jeune Werther* in 1993, the director scored his biggest international hit to date with the 1996 drama *Ponette*. The tale of a four-year-old girl attempting to overcome the harsh reality of her mother's sudden and tragic death, *Ponette* won the hearts of audiences around the world and brought Doillon international acclaim. His youthful 1999 drama *Petits Frères*, however, didn't fare quite so well on the international scene, and he faltered somewhat with the 2001 drama *Carrement à l'Ouest*. Nevertheless, longtime fans eagerly awaited the arrival of Doillon's 2003 drama *Raja*, which detailed the romance between a young Moroccan street woman who doesn't speak French and a cultured French man who doesn't speak Arabic.