

Biography



Sima Beatrice Bürgin, Sima Beatrice Bürgin, is the daughter of an American mother and a Persian father who grew up in neutral Switzerland! Her childhood was greatly influenced by the journeys she took with her family that brought her into contact with many different cultures, languages and people. Sima's early travel experiences have allowed her to feel comfortable and at "home" most everywhere – a true citizen of the world.

At the tender age of four, Sima appeared on stage for the first time at the renowned children and youth theatre, Rosmarie Metzenthin, in Zurich. During her early years, along with acting, Sima also took lessons in ballet and acrobatics and studied both the violin and piano. Sima made her public orchestral debut before she had even started attending school!

By the age of nineteen Sima had obtained her federal high school diploma (Abitur) at the cantonal public school Wiedikon in Zurich and, although she had originally planned to study medicine, she had by then grown tired of Latin grammar and instead traveled behind the Iron Curtain to Budapest, Hungary. In Budapest she was admitted to study at the prestigious Federal Ballet Institute (Állami Ballet Intezét).

At the Institute she was taught ballet according to the famous Vaganova method and, after completing her training, Sima went on to dance professionally in a number of European cities including Geneva, Frankfurt, Stuttgart and Ulm. Ultimately Sima was invited to join the Ballet Company at world famous Bavarian State Opera in Munich and, in her years there, she danced in a large variety of ballet and opera productions until 1995. During this period Sima also performed in and choreographed Volker Schlöndorff's production of "Lady Macbeth of Mzensk".

In 1985 Sima was contracted by the Munich Film Studios where she, initially, performed historical dances including the minuet, quadrille and the polonaise in a contemporary version in the film "The Unexpected Fortune" directed by Franz Josef Wild. Subsequent film roles included parts in "Derrick", "Filsbriefe", "Regina on the Steps" and "Matchmaker". In 1994 Sima was cast to play at the Salzburg Festival in "Jedermann", under the direction of Friedel Gernot. That same year she performed at the Bavarian State Theater in András Fricsay's production of "The Robbers", by Friedrich Schiller, and she was also taken on as a ballet dancer at the Bavarian State Opera. It was only shortly thereafter that Sönke Wortmann "discovered" Sima and gave her a role in the biggest German hit film of the 90's, Bernd Eichinger's production of "Maybe, Maybe Not", which was awarded the MaxX for that year.

Sima received her final acting diploma after three years of attending the European Film Actor School Zurich (EFAS), where she studied under Margarethe von Trotta, and since then she has appeared in numerous film and TV productions both in leading and supporting roles.

In 2001 and 2002 Sima also worked as a successful voice - over speaker for the Editorial Department Promotion, Present -Day Culture and Education at Swiss Television. She was also cast, during this time, to play the leading role in the film "Romeo and Juliet in the City" as well as serving as the announcer for the evening program.

Today Sima continues to work as a film and TV actress, runs her own professional recording studio "Sima Sound Studio" and is in demand as a voice - over speaker in Germany and Switzerland. She has also remained faithful to her dancing and teaches at various dance and gymnastic studios. Therefore in 2009 Sima graduated successfully at the Zurich University of the Arts in Dance Pedagogy, where she also teaches the students of the MAS in subject of Pre-Ballet. After years of experience it is her wish to maintain a healthy and conscious posture which she tries to teach to her students through her own training method "Body Line & Pilates".

Influenced by the various cultures she experienced throughout her early years, Sima became devoted to Buddhism as taught by Nichiren Daishonin and she has been an active member of Soka Gakkai International for over 20 years (The fundamental purpose of the SGI is the happiness of people and its goals are to contribute to peace, culture and education). She also has been playing the violin, for several years, in the orchestra of SGI Germany at various events for world peace.

Sima lives in Berlin, Zurich and Los Angeles, with her three talented and beautiful children (adult age). They all are very active in the fields of music and acting.