

Joan van Ark

Tony nominee Joan van Ark's most recent television role was in the movie "The Wedding Stalker" airing on Lifetime with "Glee's" Heather Morris. She is best known for her role as Valene Ewing on television's iconic *Dallas* and *Knots Landing* for 14 years. She earned her **Tony nomination** for her Broadway role in *The School for Wives* and won Broadway's Theater World Award for *The Rules of the Game*. In 2005 she appeared at the Kennedy Center in the world premiere of Tennessee Williams' *Five by Tenn* as part of the Center's Williams celebration with Sally Field, Patricia Clarkson and Kathleen Chalfant. She co-starred in the Feydeau farce *Private Fittings* at the La Jolla Playhouse, the New York theatre production of *The Exonerated* as well as the West Coast production of the off Broadway hit *Vagina Monologues* by award-winning playwright Eve Ensler. Her most recent theater appearance was in Tennessee Williams' *A Lovely Sunday for Creve Coeur* at Hartford Stage directed by Michael Wilson. She also appeared off-Broadway in *Love Letters* and co-starred in the New York production of Edward Albee's Pulitzer Prize-winning play *Three Tall Women*. Her Los Angeles theater credits include *Cyrano de Bergerac*, playing Roxanne opposite Richard Chamberlain's Cyrano, *Ring Around the Moon* with Michael York, *Chemin de Fer*, *Heartbreak House* and *As You Like It*, for which she won a **Los Angeles Drama Critics Award**. She starred as Lady Macbeth in the Grove Shakespeare Festival's production of *Macbeth*. She also appeared at The Shakespeare Theatre in Washington, D.C. starring as Camille in Tennessee Williams' *Camino Real* directed by Michael Kahn. Van Ark has also appeared in the Williamstown Theatre Festival productions of *Night of the Iguana*, *The Legend of Oedipus* as Jocasta and the Festival's 40th Anniversary production of Stephen Sondheim's *A Little Night Music* as Desiree.

She appeared at Brit Week 2016 at the Annenberg Theater, Beverly Hills, playing **Lady Macbeth** with Harry Hamlin. She also filmed an independent feature, *The 636*, and appeared on the webisode, *Pretty*, for which she won an **Indie Soap Award for Best Guest Actress**. In 2013, she reprised her iconic character, Valene Ewing, on TNT's smash *Dallas* reboot, a role she played for a combined 15 seasons on *Dallas* and *Knots Landing*. She also appeared as a celebrity judge on *RuPaul's Drag Race*, the **PBS special on Prime Time Soap Icons** and co-starred in the indie feature, *Watercolor Postcards*. She has earned six nominations and won **two Soap Opera Digest Awards for Best Actress**. She also appeared for a season on CBS's *The Young and the Restless* creating the role of Gloria Fisher. Prior to her role on *Knots Landing*, van Ark was also a series regular on the TV sitcoms, *Temperatures Rising* and *We've Got Each Other*. As a director, she was nominated for the prestigious **Humanitas Award** for an **ABC Afterschool Special** in which she also co-starred.

Her other film efforts include two independent features, *Net Games* and *Diamond Zero* with Tippi Hedren, *Held for Ransom* with Dennis Hopper and *Up Michigan*. Her television movie credits include: *Tornado Watch*, *When the Darkman Calls*, *Moment of Truth: A Mother's Deception*, *In the Shadows: Someone's Watching* (actor/producer), *Menu for Murder*, *Always Remember I Love You*, *My First Love* and *Shakedown on the Sunset Strip*. She also starred as the Vice President of the United States in the FOX Family telefilm *Loyal Opposition* and television episodes of *Twice in a Lifetime* and the FX comedy *Son of the Beach*. In animation, she was the voice of Amelia on CBS-TV's Saturday morning cartoon show *Santo Bugito* and was the title character in *Spider Woman* for ABC. Her other television appearances are on *My Name is Earl* and two appearances on FX's *Nip/Tuck* playing a Beverly Hills cougar.

Van Ark was the second youngest student to attend the Yale School of Drama on scholarship; her mentor and *Knots Landing* co-star, Julie Harris, was the first. Van Ark got her professional start at Minneapolis' Guthrie Theater in Moliere's *The Miser*, opposite Hume Cronyn and Zoe Caldwell, followed by *Death of a Salesman* at the same venue with both Cronyn and Jessica Tandy. After a season at the Arena Stage in Washington, D.C., she was cast in the national touring company of *Barefoot in the Park*, directed by Mike Nichols and recreated the role in the critically acclaimed London company and later on Broadway.

Ms. Van Ark also directed a short documentary on homelessness and domestic violence for the Directors Guild of America, which was nominated for an Emmy. Lifetime Television featured her career on its one hour retrospective, *Intimate Portrait*. And she's more than a little proud of her voice-over participation in the latest smash hit video game, *Fallout 4*. Recently, she recorded the voice of a Brooklyn mom in the new DC Universe series, "*Doom Patrol*."