

Topic Page: [Suzman, Janet \(1939 - \)](#)

Summary Article: **Suzman, Janet**

From *Chambers Biographical Dictionary*

1939-

◆ South African actress

She was born in Johannesburg, the niece of the anti-apartheid campaigner Helen Suzman. Moving to England to complete her studies, she made her acting debut in *Billy Liar* at Ipswich in 1962. That year she joined the newly formed Royal Shakespeare Company and subsequently played roles such as Portia in *The Merchant of Venice* (1965), Ophelia in *Hamlet* (1965) and Cleopatra in *Antony and Cleopatra* (1973). In the West End, she played the title role in *Hedda Gabler* (1977). She has played numerous roles on television, and her films include *The Draughtsman's Contract* (1982), *Nuns on the Run* (1990) and *Leon the Pig Farmer* (1992). In 2005 she appeared in a London revival of *Whose Life is it Anyway?* and directed *Hamlet* at the Baxter Theatre, Cape Town.

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Suzman, Janet. (2011). In L. Rodger, & J. Bakewell, *Chambers Biographical Dictionary* (9th ed.). London, UK: Chambers Harrap. Retrieved from https://search.credoreference.com/content/topic/suzman_janet_1939

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