



## **Helga Merits**

### ***Coming home soon – the refugee children of Geislingen***

Helga Merits, studied philosophy at the University of Amsterdam, but worked for years as a journalist for national radio both in Belgium and Holland, writing for newspapers in both countries as well. Wishing to visualise the stories she reported, she turned to creating documentaries. Her first film was about her refugee Estonian father, *Kallis Paul* (2007), for which she received the Theodor Luts prize. This was followed by *Class of 1943- remember us when we are gone*, (2012) about the fate of the boys who were forced to join the German army of 1943. While doing research for the film about the Estonian school class she made a film about the memories of a Jewish Polish-English man: *Sam Freiman – memories of a lost world* (2010). In 2015 she finished the film about the Baltic University, *The story of the Baltic University*, a remarkable institute created by refugees of the three Baltic Countries in Hamburg in 1946.