

Hunt, Helen (1963-) Encyclopedia Article

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Helen Hunt began a prolific acting career as a child, appearing in several television series and made-for-TV movies, beginning with her debut in *Pioneer Woman* (1973). Fame finally found her with *Mad About You* (1992—1999), an NBC sitcom about the evolving relationship of the Buchmans, a young married couple. As Jamie Buchman, a role that earned her several Emmys, Hunt explored the difficult marital and career challenges of the 1990s. Her success with both the public and the critics in *Mad About You* and in the movie *The Waterdance* (1992) earned Hunt leading roles in the special-effects blockbuster *Twister* (1996) and the moving comedy-drama *As Good As It Gets* (1997), for which she won an Academy Award.