Carla Berkowitz Brings "Critical Thinking" to the Screen

By Elman + Menendez

Screen Thinking" to the<br>Brings "Critical<br>Carla Berkowitz

The videos below were recorded via Zoom, Post-Production: Jocelyne Menendez. Music: Sofia Rosenblatt. Introduction to Carla Berkowitz. 1:37 min. Interview: Raymond Elman.

TO SUCCEED:  2:38 min.
INFLUENCES: 1:16 min.
DEVELOP A VOICE: 1:32 min.
COLLABORATION:  4:07 min.
RESILIENCE:  1:41 min.
PERSONAL BRAND:  5:11 min.
DEVELOP A VOICE:  4:19 min.
FURTHERS:  3:14 min.
BREAKS THE RULES:  
INFLUENCES:  2:27 min.
EXPOSURE TO BROAD:  
SERENDIPITY:  0:54 sec.

RECORDING JOURNEYS IN A NEW DIRECTION

Telling the story of a chess prodigy struggling with self-doubt and the loss of his mentor, Carla Berkowitz's film "Critical Thinking" is a triumph of personal discovery. Berkowitz, a daughter of Holocaust survivors, was inspired to make the film by her own experiences with perseverance.

Berkowitz was born in Caracas, Venezuela, and moved to Miami with her family when she was nine years old.

After high school, she moved back to Venezuela to study art, and later moved to Miami, Florida, at the age of 19. She attended Miami Beach High School and became a thespian in her school's theater program.

Berkowitz was a star on the Miami Jackson Senior High School chess team, which was the first LatinX inner city team to win the U.S. National Chess Championship. Berkowitz spent more than 20 years developing the project from story to screenplay to film.

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The film, directed by and starring Emmy-award winning actor John Leguizamo, tells the true story of the 1998 winning actor John Leguizamo, tells the true story of the 1998

Now that you have spent 22 years on your project, do you think your next effort will be easier?

Are you finding filmmaking rewarding?

Have you found filmmaking easier or harder than what you expected?

What's your earliest memory of filmmaking, do you think your next effort will be easier?

TO SUCCEED: 1:41 min.
EXPOSURE TO BROAD: 
SERENDIPITY:  

Where did you go to school in Venezuela for your education—was that for high school or college?

Where did you grow up and where did you move to Miami? What's your earliest memory of filmmaking?

What was the impact of Miami—where did you go to school in Venezuela for your education—was that for high school or college?

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CREATES A UNIQUE PERSONAL BRAND:  2:30 min.

UNDERSTANDS THE BUSINESS OF ART:  3:01 min.

PERSEVERANCE FURTHERS:  3:27 min.

Robert Zuckerman:  I like to visit K-12 schools and talk with students.  I tell them, "When someone tells you 'no,' often that is 'yes' with sunglasses on."