



POV FILMS AND HITPLAY PRODUCTIONS

Present

15 TO LIFE Kenneth's Story

A film by Nadine Pequeneza
83 minutes, 1.78

Official Selection:

Florida Film Festival
April 13 at 4:15pm
Regal Winter Park Village 20, 510 North Orlando Ave

Atlanta Film Festival
April 1 at 9:45pm
Plaza Theatre, 1049 Ponce De Leon Ave N

U.S. Broadcast Premiere:

POV - PBS's award-winning non-fiction showcase
August 4, 2014 at 10pm

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15 TO LIFE

Kenneth's Story

Kenneth Young committed armed robbery at 14. He's now facing life in prison. For more than a decade, Kenneth believed he would die behind bars, until the U.S. Supreme Court ruled his sentence unconstitutional.

The United States is the only country in the world that sentences children to life without parole. More than 2,000 now have the hope of obtaining release.

In a country that favors retribution over rehabilitation, we witness this young man's struggle for a second chance.

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SYNOPSIS

The United States is the only country in the world that routinely condemns children to die in prison. This is the story of one of those children, now a young man, seeking a second chance in Florida – one of the most punitive states in the country.

For more than a decade Kenneth lived believing he would die behind bars, until in 2010 the U.S. Supreme Court ruled life sentences for children who haven't killed illegal. Across the country kids sentenced to life in prison for crimes less than murder, are now eligible for release.

In Tampa we follow Kenneth Young's resentencing trial and his legal battle for release, a test case that will determine how courts across the country try and sentence children. Coerced into helping his mother's crack dealer rob hotels at age 14, Kenneth now has a chance to prove he is rehabilitated and that the judge who sentenced him to die a prisoner was wrong to throw away the key.

Kenneth's story is a powerful testament to a child's remarkable capacity for change, and a stinging indictment of a penal system that routinely condemns children to die in prison. It has the dramatic power of a trial narrative, and the unique perspective of the condemned.

15 TO LIFE is not a wrongfully convicted story, but rather a story of redemption that goes to the heart of why children cannot be treated as adults before the law.

Of the more than 2,500 children sentenced to life in prison, Kenneth's story is both exceptional and universal. Like most children who receive death-in-prison sentences, Kenneth is black, indigent and neglected. What makes his case extreme is the brutality of his punishment – four life sentences for armed robberies in which no one was injured.

Most people are unaware that children as young as 12 years old are being sentenced to die in adult prisons. Since the 2010 Graham decision, the U.S. Supreme Court has issued another landmark ruling, Miller v. Alabama, making mandatory life sentences for juveniles unconstitutional. Together these two decisions impact more than 2,000 inmates who were sentenced to life as children.

Tough on crime legislation has proven both a fiscal and social failure. In two historic decisions the Supreme Court has urged state legislatures to rewrite sentencing law for juvenile offenders. The repercussions of Graham and Miller are now being felt across the country.

15 TO LIFE is a timely and moving examination of youth crime and punishment; a documentary that will inform and engage citizens on an important social policy issue – how should we treat children in the justice system?

ABOUT THE FILM – director’s notes

Few people would question whether 13- and 14-year-olds need guidance. Parents especially recognize that children are easily influenced, that they can be impulsive and that empathy and cruelty are both learned behaviors. Given that we know these things about children, I was shocked to learn that kids as young as 12 years old are being sentenced to die in prison.

As I began to research juvenile sentences of life without parole, reading articles, reports and studies from individuals and groups on both sides of this argument, the essence of the debate presented itself in the form of a few very fundamental questions, the answers to which have significant ramifications for our society. When children commit crimes, should rehabilitation take precedence over punishment? Can a child be ruled to be an adult, based on a single action? Can children who commit violent acts be rehabilitated? By focusing on the case of a child who committed multiple armed robberies at the age of 14 and 15, I set out to answer these questions.

Invariably when you’re filming, people stop and ask what you’re doing. Each time that happened with this film, I told the questioner that we were making a documentary about kids who get sentenced to life in prison. The reaction was always the same: “Children? How old? In the United States?” This last question invariably ended with a disbelieving headshake when I explained that other than Somalia, the U.S. is the only country in the world that sentences children to die in prison. Yet despite this common public disapproval of life sentences for children, I have found strong support for it among many prosecutors, judges and legislators. Why?

I believe that, as a society, we’ve become engrossed in the sordid details of youth crimes. Every day we’re bombarded with stories of delinquent youth. We’ve labeled our children “super predators.” And we watch television shows like *Killer Kids*. Victims’ rights groups have become the most vocal lobbyists opposing juvenile sentencing reform, even though not all victims think alike. I wanted to tell a different story, one that shattered stereotypes and put a child’s face on the issue. By focusing on one case, that of Kenneth Young, I wanted to show the complicated nature of his relationship with his mother, the absence of social safety nets to help Kenneth and young people like him, and the injustice that is inherent in trying children as adults.

Ironically, the United States was the first country in the world to create a separate justice system for juveniles. In 1899, the country’s first juvenile court was established in Cook County, Illinois. Its primary focus was rehabilitation. Today there are nearly 300,000 children serving sentences in adult prisons. And each year nearly 250,000 children are transferred to adult courts, where they face sentences of lengthy incarceration.

Since the 2010 *Graham v. Florida* decision, which ruled that life sentences for juveniles convicted of crimes other than murder were unconstitutional, some 80 child offenders have been resentenced. Typically those who have been released have been in their early 40s and have already served significant parts of their sentences. But younger inmates have often been resentenced to multi-decade prison terms, or virtual life sentences, the longest being 110 years. In some states, these virtual life sentences have been overturned by higher courts. Across the country, courts and legislatures are grappling with how to interpret recent U.S. Supreme Court decisions, including *Miller v. Alabama*, which banned mandatory life sentences without parole for juveniles in 2012.

America’s juvenile justice system is at a crossroads. What happens over the next few years will determine whether we continue down a road of retribution or return to the ideal of rehabilitation

on which the juvenile justice system was founded. My hope is that Kenneth Young's voice will add a vital perspective that is often missing from this debate. Kenneth is living proof that a child should never be punished as an adult, and that juvenile offenders can be rehabilitated.

STYLE

15 TO LIFE Kenneth's Story is an **observational documentary** that weaves the present-day story of Kenneth's legal battle with the story of his difficult childhood, and the circumstances leading to a 30-day crime spree that changed his life forever. Using evidence from the robberies - **surveillance video and crime scene photos** - along with the **testimony of witnesses** who recount the past, and psychologists and prison wardens who attempt to predict the future, the film seamlessly connects past and present to arrive at the determination of a young man's future.

Within the dramatic narrative of Kenneth's resentencing hearing, we visit characters from his past - Kenneth's **original public defenders, his teachers, and family members**. Those who knew him as a young boy growing up on the streets of the most crime-ridden neighborhood in Florida, are able to contrast who he was, with who he has become. Each scene that transports us into Kenneth's past has a **natural point of intersection** with the unfolding resentencing trial, where witnesses testify about his childhood, the robberies, and his incarceration.

Like the vast majority of children serving life without parole, Kenneth is African American, poor and neglected. Society's failure to protect these at-risk children has led to a level of injustice, the depth of which is portrayed by the numbers.

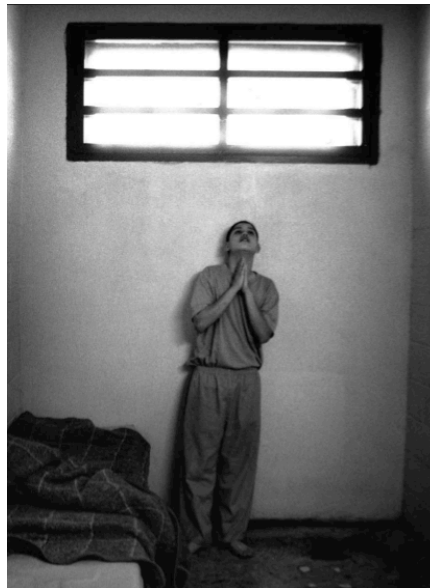
Every 13 and 14 year-old sentenced to life without parole in the United States is a child of color.

60 percent of children sentenced to life without parole are first time offenders.

Over 70 percent of children serving life acted under the direction of an adult.

To impart these shocking statistics 15 TO LIFE blends graphic design with the **haunting images of award-winning photojournalist Steve Liss**.

In 2005, Steve Liss travelled across the United States to photograph children held in jails and prisons. The resulting photo collection is a powerful, gripping realization of what it means to put a child behind bars. Liss' heart-rending black and white images are fused with stylized text to bring into focus the universal themes contained within Kenneth Young's story.



SOCIAL RELEVANCE

This is an important story, because the United States is severely out of step with international law. Other than Somalia, the U.S. is the only United Nations member state that has refused to ratify the Convention on the Rights of the Child. Failure to ratify the world's most widely accepted human rights agreement is in part due to the practice of incarcerating children for life.

Ironically the United States was the first country in the world to create a separate justice system for juveniles. During the 19th Century social reformers set up juvenile facilities across the U.S. in an effort to rehabilitate young offenders. In 1899 the country's first juvenile court was established in Cook County, Illinois – creating a lasting distinction between the treatment of children and adults before the law. Over the last three decades high profile tragedies involving youth violence in the United States have fuelled a nationwide attack on the juvenile justice system, so that today there are nearly **300,000 children serving lengthy sentences in adult prisons. And each year nearly 250,000 children are transferred to adult court.**

In Florida, Kenneth is fighting an uphill battle. Before the U.S. Supreme Court's *Graham* decision, courts in the Sunshine State were **19 times more likely to sentence children to life for crimes less than murder**. Despite several legal challenges, Florida courts repeatedly upheld their right to sentence children to life for non-homicide, until the U.S. Supreme Court forced them to stop.

Since the *Graham* ruling, some 80 children have been resentenced. Typically those that have been released are in their early 40s, having already served a significant part of their sentence. Younger inmates have often been resentenced to multi-decade prison terms, or virtual life sentences, the longest being 110 years. Across the country, courts and legislatures are grappling with how to interpret the recent U.S. Supreme Court decisions. America's juvenile justice system is at a crossroads. What happens over the next few years will determine whether the United States continues down the road of retribution or returns to the ideal of rehabilitation, on which the juvenile justice system was founded.

ABOUT JUVENILE LIFE WITHOUT PAROLE

- The majority of sentences to life without parole for youth have been [imposed in states where judges are obligated to impose](#) it as a mandatory sentence, without consideration of any factors relating to a child's age or life circumstances.
- More than 25% of people serving life without parole after being sentenced as children were [convicted of felony murder or accomplice liability](#), meaning they were not the primary perpetrators of the crime, and may not have even been present at the time someone was killed.
- The majority of youth sentenced to life without parole are concentrated in just five states: California, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Michigan, and Pennsylvania. (California's [Senate Bill 9](#), the Fair Sentencing of Youth Act, provides re-sentencing and parole opportunities to youth under 18 sentenced to life

without parole. The bill was signed by Governor Brown in 2012 and applies retroactively to the nearly 300 “juvenile lifers” currently serving in California prisons.)

- Children sentence to life in prison without parole are often the most vulnerable members of our society. [Nearly 80 percent of juvenile lifers reported witnessing violence in their homes; more than half \(54.1%\) witnessed weekly violence in their neighborhoods.](#)
- [African American youth are sentenced to life without parole as children at a per capita rate that is 10 times that of White youth.](#)
- [80 percent of girls and nearly half of all children sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole have been physically abused.](#)
- [77 percent of girls and 20 percent of all youth lifers said they have been sexually abused.](#)

THE U.S. SUPREME COURT DECISIONS

Roper, Graham, Miller

The U.S. Supreme Court *Graham v. Florida* decision - upon which Kenneth Young's resentencing was based - is part of a continuum of SCOTUS decisions that have limited the culpability of children, and the State's ability to punish children as adults.

In the landmark decision ***Roper v. Simmons* issued on March 1, 2005**, the United States Supreme Court ruled 5-4 that it is unconstitutional to impose the death penalty for a crime committed by a child under the age of 18. The Court ruled that a death sentence imposed on a minor violates the Eighth and Fourteenth Amendments.

In his opinion for the majority, Justice Kennedy wrote, "*When a juvenile offender commits a heinous crime, the state can exact forfeiture of some of the most basic liberties, but the state cannot extinguish his life and his potential to attain a mature understanding of his own humanity.*" *Roper v. Simmons*, No. 03-633, 543 U.S. __ (slip op. at 20) (2005)

The Court cited adolescent development research finding that children's brains - not just their bodies - are not fully developed, and as a result, they do not have adult levels of judgment or ability to assess risks and the consequences of their actions. The Court noted that children are more susceptible to peer pressure than adults and have little power to escape harmful environments. Because of where they are developmentally, children also have greater potential for rehabilitation. The Court concluded that children are categorically less culpable than adults.

Justice Kennedy wrote, "*From a moral standpoint, it would be misguided to equate the failings of a minor with those of an adult, for a greater possibility exists that a minor's character deficiencies will be reformed.*" *Roper v. Simmons*, No. 03-633, 543 U.S. __ (slip op. at 16) (2005)

Following the *Roper* decision, on **May 17, 2010 the *Graham v. Florida*** decision limited the most severe punishment for children after the death penalty, life without parole. The *Graham* ruling bans juvenile life without parole for non-homicide crimes.

Justice Kennedy authored 5-4 decision in *Graham v. Florida* that held that the Eighth Amendment's prohibition against cruel and unusual punishment does not permit the imposition of a sentence of life without the possibility of parole for youth under the age of 18 in cases involving certain crimes.

The Constitution prohibits the imposition of a life without parole sentence on a juvenile offender who did not commit homicide. - Graham v. Florida, No. 08-7412, slip. op. at 31, 560 U.S. __ (2010)

The limited culpability of such offenders; and the severity of these sentences all lead

the Court to conclude that the sentencing practice at issue is cruel and unusual.” – Graham v. Florida, No. 08 - 7412, slip. op. at 23, 560 U.S. __ (2010)

Two years later on **June 25, 2012 in *Miller v. Alabama***, the U.S. Supreme Court banned mandatory life without parole for juveniles for all crimes. Juveniles convicted of murder can still be sentenced to life without parole, but judges must take into consideration their maturity and circumstance.

Such mandatory penalties, by their nature, preclude a sentence from taking account of an offender’s age and the wealth of characteristics and circumstances attendant to it. Under these schemes, every juvenile will receive the same sentence as every other—the 17-year-old and the 14-year-old, the shooter and the accomplice, the child from a stable household and the child from a chaotic and abusive one. And still worse, each juvenile (including these two 14-year-olds) will receive the same sentence as the vast majority of adults committing similar homicide offenses—but really, as Graham noted, a greater sentence than those adults will serve. In meting out the death penalty, the elision of all these differences would be strictly forbidden. And once again, Graham indicates that a similar rule should apply when a juvenile confronts a sentence of life (and death) in prison. - Miller v. Alabama, No. 10–9646, slip op. at 14 (U.S. June 25, 2012).

In summing up all three decisions, ***Roper, Graham and Miller*** the U.S. Supreme Court said the following:

Our decisions rested not only on common sense—on what “any parent knows”—but on science and social science as well. Roper, 543 U.S., at 569. In Roper, we cited studies showing that “[o]nly a relatively small proportion of adolescents” who engage in illegal activity “develop entrenched patterns of problem behavior.” Id., at 570. Id., at 570 (quoting Steinberg & Scott, Less Guilty by Reason of Adolescence: Developmental Immaturity, Diminished Responsibility, and the Juvenile Death Penalty, 58 Am. Psychologist 1009, And in Graham, we noted that “developments in psychology and brain science continue to show fundamental differences between juvenile and adult minds”—for example, in “parts of the brain involved in behavior control.” 560 U. S., at __ (slip op., at 17). We reasoned that those findings—of transient rashness, proclivity for risk, and inability to assess consequences—both lessened a child’s “moral culpability” and enhanced the prospect that, as the years go by and neurological development occurs, his “deficiencies will be reformed.” Id., at __ (slip op., at 18) (quoting Roper, 543 U. S., at 570). - Miller v. Alabama, No. 10–9646, slip op. at 8-9 (U.S. June 25, 2012).

STATE REACTIONS TO GRAHAM AND MILLER

Since the *Graham* ruling, nearly half of the 179 children sentence to life without parole for non-homicide crimes have been resentenced. Typically those that have been released are in their early 40s, having already served a significant part of their sentence. Whereas younger inmates have often been resentenced to multi-decade prison terms, or virtual life

sentences, the longest being 110 years. The Florida Supreme Court is currently considering whether these virtual life sentences are in violation of the U.S. Supreme Court *Graham* ruling.

While *Graham* was immediately and unanimously accepted by States as being retroactive, allowing inmates sentenced to life as children a chance to obtain release – in the case of *Miller*, the response has been divided. Because the *Miller* decision impacts a much larger number of inmates, just over 2,000, and applies to the most serious crime, murder. In June 2014 the U.S. Supreme Court declined to hear an appeal by juvenile-justice-advocates that would have brought clarity to the question of retroactivity for these inmates serving juvenile life sentences for homicide.

To date, seven state supreme courts have ruled on *Miller* retroactivity. Four of those states - Iowa, Massachusetts, Mississippi and Nebraska -- have ruled that *Miller* should be applied retroactively. In addition, a federal court in Michigan held that *Miller* is retroactive. The order has been stayed pending appeal. State supreme courts in Louisiana, Minnesota and Pennsylvania have ruled that *Miller* is not retroactive. Federal circuit courts in the 5th and 11th districts have also ruled that *Miller* is not retroactive. Cases are currently pending before state supreme courts in Florida, Washington and Illinois.

Since the *Graham* and *Miller* rulings six states have banned juvenile life without parole sentences entirely; including: Texas, West Virginia, Wyoming, Delaware, Massachusetts and Hawaii. See this interactive map for more information.

<http://bit.ly/1wpPmjR>

**Information regarding state reactions to the U.S. Supreme Court decisions is current as of July 1, 2014.*

ABOUT THE CAST

Kenneth Young



Just before his 15th birthday, a 24-year-old neighborhood drug dealer, Jacques Bethea, stopped Kenneth in the street claiming his mother had stolen drugs from him. Bethea threatened to hurt Kenneth's mother unless he helped repay her debt. During a 30-day period Bethea used Kenneth Young in a string of hotel robberies and paid him with a pair of Air Jordans, a 6-pack of Heineken and \$50. At each hotel, Kenneth grabbed the money and the surveillance tape, while Bethea held people at gunpoint. One month after his first robbery, Kenneth was arrested along with Bethea while fleeing a botched robbery in Georgia. Bethea received one life sentence, Kenneth received four. After over a decade in prison, the U.S. Supreme Court has given Kenneth hope for a second chance. [Click here](#) to view Kenneth's timeline in parallel with the world he grew up in.

Stephanie Young



Kenneth's mother Stephanie is ridden with guilt over her son's incarceration, and still struggles to tell the truth about her role in putting Kenneth behind bars. A young mother, and single parent addicted to drugs and alcohol, throughout his childhood Stephanie disappeared for days at a time on crack binges, leaving Kenneth and his older sister to fend for themselves. Her neglect and abuse made Kenneth easy prey for criminals like her own drug dealer, Jacques Bethea. It's a failure Kenneth has forgiven his mother. Nothing shows Kenneth's maturity more than his renewed relationship with his mother. Clean and sober, Stephanie credits the love she receives from her son for her recovery. Through his four criminal trials as a teenager Stephanie was not there for her son. This time she's determined to be by his side.

Paolo Annino



Florida lawyer Paolo Annino believes Kenneth Young, having served 11 years, should be set free, and under the Supreme Court's *Graham* decision he's seeking his immediate release. As head of Florida State University's [Children in Prison Project](#) and the co-Director of the [Public Interest Law Center](#), it's what Annino has been fighting for, for the past 15 years – to place rehabilitation at the heart of the juvenile justice system. Annino and his students have received national and international recognition for their advocacy on behalf of children. In 2010, members of the U.S. Supreme Court repeatedly cited a study lead by Annino in a landmark decision that life in prison without the opportunity for parole represents cruel and unusual punishment for juvenile offenders who did not commit homicide. He is the attorney of record for more than 500 appellate cases in state and federal court.

Corinne Koeppen



Corinne Koeppen graduated from the Florida State University Law program in 2011. Having been called to the Florida Bar just a few months ago, Kenneth's resentencing trial will be her first time defending a client in court. She is one of only a handful of graduate students selected each year to go through Paolo Annino's training program at the Public Interest Law Center. Corinne was drawn to work with children in the criminal justice system after meeting several of the Center's clients in adult prison, children who had been sentenced to life without parole for mistakes they made as children. She has been working on Kenneth's case for nearly a year. She has invested hundreds of hours in building a case to prove that Kenneth is rehabilitated and deserves a second chance.

Bryan Stevenson



Bryan Stevenson is a public-interest lawyer who has dedicated his career to helping the poor, the incarcerated and the condemned. He's the founder and executive director of the [Equal Justice Initiative](#), an Alabama-based group that has won major legal challenges at the U.S. Supreme Court eliminating excessive and unfair sentencing, confronting abuse of the incarcerated and the mentally ill, and aiding children prosecuted as adults. In 2005 Stevenson convinced the U.S. Supreme Court to ban the death penalty for children, *Roper v. Simmons*. Since then he has brought two cases before the U.S. Supreme Court to limit the use of death-in-prison sentences for children *Jackson v Hobbs* and *Miller v Alabama*. In June 2012 *Miller* resulted in a ban on mandatory life imprisonment without parole sentences for children, forcing 29 States to reexamine the way in which they prosecute and punish children.

SUPPORTING CHARACTERS

Major Dennis Piper

Forsyth Police Department

Fred Kapadia

Manager, Comfort Inn

Randy Otto

Criminal Psychologist

Det. George Steffen

Pinellas Sheriff's Office

Ron McAndrew

Retired Prison Warden

Sandra Christopher

Robbery Victim

Charles Laycock

Former Hillsborough Public Defender

Patrice Moore

Pinellas County Juvenile Court Judge

Chrissy Dorion

Middle School Teacher

Ernest Young

Kenneth's Cousin

ABOUT THE FILMMAKERS

Producer/Director NADINE PEQUENEZA

Nadine Pequeneza began her career as a broadcast journalist working with Canada's flagship news and current affairs programs – CTV's W5 and CBC's The National. For the past fifteen years she's been creating award-winning documentaries for Canadian and international audiences. Experienced in observational, biographical and dramatized documentaries, Nadine strives to tell character-driven stories that captivate, entertain and educate. Her work has screened at festivals around the world from Toronto, to Milan, to Prague to Sichuan. She is a 4-time Gemini Award Nominee in both directing and writing categories. Among her feature documentaries: *INSIDE DISASTER HAITI* – Gemini Nominee for Best Directing in a Documentary Program 2011, Special Jury Award Sichuan Film Festival 2011, Official selection One World International Human Rights Documentary Festival, and Milano Film Festival, 2011. *ARISTIDE'S HAITI* – Gold Plaque Chicago International Film Festival 2006, Gemini nominee for Best Writing in a Documentary Program, 2006. *RAISING CASSIDY* – Official selection Hot Docs Toronto International Festival, Rencontres Internationales du Documentaires de Montréal, 2003.

Cinematographer STEFAN RANDSTROM

Stefan Randström started his career as a Finnish TV host and journalist before immigrating to Canada in 1993. Since settling in Toronto with his family, Stefan has worked as a DOP for television and film productions, shooting everything from independent documentaries, to observational television series, to high-end international co-productions. In 2011 Stefan was nominated for Best Documentary Cinematography by the Canadian Society of Cinematographers for his work on *INSIDE DISASTER: HAITI*. In the two previous years he was nominated for a Canadian Screen Award for Best Cinematography: in 2010 for *WHICH WAY TO ARVIAT*, a travel adventure series for National Geographic Channel, and in 2009 *AT THE TABLE WITH...*, a biography series for the Food Network. Stefan has worked as a DOP on the following documentary series: *Mother Tongue*, a 6×30 minutes series about female immigrant stories in Canada, and *Living Stories* 6×30 minutes about cancer survivors. Before immigrating to Canada, Stefan wrote five books in his mother tongue Swedish; including a textbook in investigative journalism, two reportage books, a children's book and a novel.

Sound Recordist PAUL ADLAF

Paul Adlaf is an award winning Location Sound Recordist. Born and raised in Toronto, Paul began a love affair with music and high fidelity sound at a very young age. This passion led to studies at Berklee College of Music in Boston and at Recording Arts Program of Canada in Ontario. Paul received the 2001 Genie Award for Best Achievement in Sound for his work on the feature film *Love Come Down*. Ambitions for a quieter life led to work on dramatic television series, television movies and feature films in Halifax from 2000 to 2006. Word of mouth led to work with legendary

cinematographer Vittorio Storraro on the epic Mexican feature film Zapata-The Heroe's Dream in 2003. In a country where 100% Dialogue Replacement is common Paul's efforts led to 90% production sound being used in the film. A long love of documentary films led Paul to return to Toronto and dedicate his full attention to capturing human emotion through sound for Documentaries all around the world.

Editor RICARDO ACOSTA

Ricardo Acosta immigrated to Canada from his native Cuba in 1993. Before coming to Toronto, he studied and worked with the world-renowned Cuban Film Institute in Havana. For the past fifteen years Ricardo has edited both documentary and dramatic films, which have been shown around the world. His outstanding work has contributed to the making of several award-winning films including: THE TAKE directed by Naomi Klein and Avi Lewis – Official selection Venice Film Festival, 2004, nomination for Best Picture Editing in a Documentary Program or Series, 20th Annual Gemini Awards; RUNAWAY GROOM directed by Ali Kazimi – Winner of The Donald Brittain Award for Best Social/Political Documentary, 2005; and ARGENTINA'S DIRTY WAR directed by Nadine Pequenez – Winner Yorkton Golden Sheaf Award, Official selection One World International Human Rights Documentary Festival and Tel Aviv International Documentary Film Festival, 2001. His most recent film, HERMAN'S HOUSE, premiered at the Hot Docs Canadian International Documentary Festival, and will air on POV in 2013.

Composer ALEX KHASKIN

Alex Khaskin received his undergraduate education at Glinka's School for The Musically Gifted (piano and conducting), before studying composition and conducting at The St. Petersburg State Conservatory. Alex worked as guest conductor for the Radio and Television Orchestra of St. Petersburg, the Lenfilm Stage Orchestra, and the Orchestra of the St. Petersburg State Conservatory. Inspired to seek a career as a film composer, he attended master classes by the famous Russian film and classical composer Andrei Petrov. From 1985 until his immigration to Canada in 1993, Alex scored 14 theatrical and television films and documentaries in Russia. Since settling in his Toronto studio, Alex has composed music for over 50 hours of documentary and narrative productions.

CREDITS

FRONT CREDITS

HitPlay Productions presents

A film by Nadine Pequeneza

END CREDITS

Produced, Directed and Written by
NADINE PEQUENEZA

Director of Photography
STEFAN RANDSTROM

Editor
RICARDO ACOSTA

Original Music Composed by
ALEX KHASKIN
STAN FOMIN

Sound Recordist
PAUL ADLAF

Still Photography
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GIGI COHEN

Online Editor
CRAIG BARNIKIS

Colourist
ARLENE MOELKER

Video Post Production
CREATIVE POST

Sound Mixer
GRANT EDMONDS
Sound Effects
GABE KNOX

Assistant Effects Editor
AIDAN MCMAHON

Post Audio
DARK STUDIO SOUND COMPANY

Additional Cinematography
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NADINE PEQUENEZA
JEFF ALLEN
EDWARD MORRIS

Additional Editing
NADINE PEQUENEZA
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Assistant Editor
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FRANCES DARWIN

Social Media Intern
ELLEN PAYNE SMITH

Archive
C-SPAN

Production Accountant
JIMMY YE

Legal
KEN ROSENTHAL

Special thanks to the Young family, whose generous spirit and kindness made this film possible.

Special Thanks

Rudolph and Frances Adlaf
Paolo Annino
Jean-Philippe Arcand
Simon Archer
Don Bachmann
Barbara Barde
Ed Barreveld
Julia Bennett
Angad Bhalla
Ric Essther Bienstock
Deborah Brodsky
Calibrated Software
Elizabeth Calvin
Simonee Chichester
Sandra Christopher
Allison DeFoor
Chrissy Dorion
Paul Fox
Isabel Gomez-Moriana
Sheila Hopkins
Michele Hozer
Fred Kapadia
Tanya Kelen
Jody Kent
Alana Klein
Corinne Koeppen
Carol Kolinchak
Charles Laycock
Mark Lewandowski
Steve Liss
Ron McAndrew
Patrice Moore
Jennifer Norman
Randy Otto
Dennis Piper
Joanna Scaglione
Kevin Szczepanski
George Steffen
Bryan Stevenson
Greg Stitch
Elaine Strosberg
Lisa Valencia-Svensson
Russ Walker

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Supported by
THE FILM COLLABORATIVE

Commissioning Editors for American Documentary | POV
SIMON KILMURRY
CYNTHIA LOPEZ

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HitPlay LOGO [3 SECONDS]

Chris White 2/20/14 6:52 PM

Comment [1]: YOU MUST CHOOSE
INDIVIDUAL OR ENTITY, NOT BOTH

Chris White 2/20/14 6:52 PM

Comment [2]: YOU MUST CHOOSE
INDIVIDUAL OR ENTITY, NOT BOTH

Chris White 2/20/14 6:57 PM

Comment [3]: IS THIS PRODUCTION
FUNDING?