

FILMMAKING APPROACH

Between 2007 and 2011 I traveled solo 21 times to Havana gathering footage for two films about children growing up in the world-famous Cuban Ballet System.

My premise: Shoot only scenes that could not be translated into words. Ramona De Saa Bella, (AKA Cherie) Director of the National Ballet School, said, "Well, what else would you do? You're making a movie after all."

In the case of SECUNDARIA I followed one high-school class from auditions to graduation, focussing on Mayara, Moisés and Gabriella from day one - which is why the events that happen in SECUNDARIA are so startling.