



Critical Acclaim For 'REPORTERO'

By Bernardo Ruiz

"The heroes of Bernardo Ruiz's *Reportero* are the journalists for *Zeta* . . . The courage of *Zeta* writers . . . cannot be overestimated."

—Stephen Holden, *The New York Times*

"A solidly constructed, well-shot docu about the lethal perils of truth-telling south of the border."

—Ronnie Scheib, *Variety*

"[A] potent documentary . . . [Sergio] Haro and his colleagues, despite great risk, pursue their stories with extraordinary commitment, making one squirm in wonder: 'In the same circumstances, what would I do? Could I be a tenth this brave?' This important film . . . on PBS' 'POV' . . . shouldn't be missed."

—Roger Ebert, *Chicago Sun-Times*

"A fascinating documentary."

—Randi Kaye, "CNN Newsroom"

"Gripping . . . a powerful reminder of how journalism often requires immense amounts of physical and psychological bravery."

—*New York magazine*

"Astounding . . . *Reportero* held audiences spellbound as it explored the importance in continuing the fight to report the truth, no matter the cost. . . A smart and cohesive wakeup call for the world of the importance of freedom of speech in the news-gathering business."

—Lori Huck, *Yahoo! News*

"The story of some local journalists . . . who believe in the basic ideals so passionately they go to their deaths essentially nameless in the brutal world of the Mexican drug wars."

—John Hockenberry, NPR, "The Takeaway"

"Persuasively shown . . . compelling."

—Carlos Lauría, Senior Americas Program Coordinator, Committee to Protect Journalists,
Op-ed, *The Miami Herald*

"If it weren't real and terribly frightening, you'd think it was . . . a Liam Neeson thriller."

—Celeste Headlee, NPR, "Tell Me More"

"Brings to light the dangers of reporting on cartel activities in Mexico."

—EJ Aguado, *Fox News Latino*

"*Reportero* paints an unfiltered portrait of the state of journalism on the Mexican side of the U.S.-Mexico border . . . But Ruiz isn't interested in dwelling on the dead. He'd much rather have *Reportero* celebrate the lives of those working so hard to secure their freedom of the press."

—Katharine Relth, *Documentary magazine*

"A must-see story."

—David Crumm, *ReadTheSpirit.com*

"*Reportero* is important because it highlights the horrific risks, pressures and dilemmas facing Mexican journalists."

—Tracy Atkinson, Mexico Bureau Chief, *The Los Angeles Times*

"*Reportero* does a fantastic job of showing the human struggles in covering drug trafficking and violence in Mexico. . . . It gives viewers a great sense of the fear, intimidation, violence, adrenaline, comradeship, skill and pride of the photographers and reporters on the border police beat."

—Ioan Grillo, author, *El Narco: Inside Mexico's Criminal Insurgency*

"Ruiz documents *Zeta's* incredible three-decade odyssey with solid research, piecing together grainy and at times ghastly video and newspaper coverage with riveting interviews of its key players . . . engaging and worthwhile."

—Jeffrey Wright, *San Antonio Current*

"A moving portrait [that] is riveting and disturbing at once. Kudos to PBS for bringing this important story to television audiences."

—Diana Washington Valdez, *El Paso Times*

"A startling and revealing story. . . . poignant."

—Marcos Bernal-Salas, *Examiner.com*

"*Reportero* shows us another side of intensifying drug war in Mexico, one that gives us empathy to the people who must live through it and the human cost of those who make finding justice their mission."

—Matthew Rowe, *Arkansas Times*

"Electrifying. . . . The access [to] *Zeta's* archives allowed Ruiz and editor Carla Gutierrez to beautifully craft a poignant and important argument in favor of . . . hard-hitting investigative journalism."

—Marco Vera, *Artbound blog, KCET.org*

"A bold documentary . . . cleverly composed shots and beautiful cinematography."

—Sandra Larriva, *Cinespect*

"Striking. . . . it offers hope in the form of veteran reporters like Sergio Haro, for whom investigative journalism is not a job, but a calling, regardless of the risks."

—Adrian Florido, *Fronteras: The Changing America Desk, KJZZ Phoenix / KPBS San Diego*

"Reflecting on how young killers come to their choices, the film elucidates—beautifully and painfully—contexts as well as consequences."

—Cynthia Fuchs, *PopMatters*

"An incisive look into a troubling issue that is not so far from us."

—Americ Ngwije, *FilmEquals.com*

"Fascinating but deeply scary stuff . . . a bracing tribute to the news weekly's principled journalists."

—Joe Bendel, *Libertas Film Magazine.com*

"Doesn't just illuminate a disturbing social trend in the modern Mexican experience; it reveals the deep-seeded memories of regret haunting those attempting to salvage freedom of speech on the front lines."

—Glenn Heath Jr., *Slant Magazine*

"Absorbing."

—Nora Lee Mandel, *Film-Forward.com*