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Hemingway in Key West and Cuba



Directed by Jacques VICHET

A documentary of 52'

French Version English Version

High Definition HD Cam & Digital Betacam 16/9

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Papa, as Marlene DIETRICH fondly referred to him, is considered to be one of the greatest writers of the 20th Century. He won many literary prizes, including the Nobel Prize for Literature.

His name is inherently associated with Cuba. Avid fisherman that he was, his visits to the country left a enduring mark.

In 1935, he caught the largest spearfish ever fished in the Atlantic, at 119 pounds. Another time he brought in a Blue Shark weighing 789 pounds. All of these achievements were officially recorded and certified.

The Cuba that Ernest HEMINGWAY knew was also one of smoky rooms and fiery conversations. Sat in a leather armchair, or leaning against a zinc-edged bar, he was as comfortable in the company of a local fisherman, as with Spencer Tracy, but always with a Mojito or a Daquiri in his hand.

You can still visit his favourite bars (le Floridita, la Bodeguita Del Medio), his boat The Pilar, his room at the hotel Ambos Mundos, and his house la Finca Vigia still resonates with memories of a golden age when Ava Garner would swim naked in the pool.

The main character of his Nobel-Prize winning poem: "The Old Man and The Sea " was inspired by a fisherman from Cojimar near Havana. His favourite bar " La terraza " still contains traces of the presence of this illustrious figure.

We will follow in HEMINGWAY's footsteps, from his native town of Chicago, to Spain, via Africa, Key West in Florida, and Paris, stopping off at various other places which were important in the author's life.

Only war, and Africa for its hunting, were able to drag HEMINGWAY away from his island. But he always came back, accompanied by his wives Pauline, Martha, and Mary.

Chicago, Spain, Africa, Paris, Hemingway has set sail across the seven seas. Journalist, writer, ambulance driver, soldier, hunter, he has many strings to his bow.

He draws his inspiration from his many experiences, enabling him to paint a profound and precise portrait of the lost generation.

Only the wars and the hunting grounds of Africa managed to take him away from his island. He always came back, accompanied by his wives, Pauline, Martha or Mary.