



THE ACADEMY  
OF MOTION PICTURE ARTS AND SCIENCES

84<sup>th</sup> Academy Awards Nominee Questionnaire

**Michael De Luca / Nominated for: Best Picture for "Moneyball"**

What is your hometown? Where did you go to school?

My hometown is Canarsie, Brooklyn in the great city of New York! I went to South Shore High in Brooklyn and later the Tisch School of the Arts at NYU.

What was your first movie-going experience, and how did it affect you?

My first experience was a re-release of "Fantasia" at Radio City Music Hall! It dropped my jaw in sheer amazement and I knew I had to get into the movie business!

Did you watch the Oscars growing up? Was it a family experience? Do you recall a particular favorite Oscar moment?

I've watched the Oscars every year since I was a toddler, it was an event in my house, one we all shared. A favorite moment for me was Hitchcock's

When did you decide that you wanted to make movies? What influenced you? Who or what inspired you along the way?

I'm a child of the 70s so the Disney re-releases, Spielberg, and Lucas all influenced me to pursue this. I saw "Star Wars" 17 times!

What's the most valuable piece of advice you ever got in your career?

Never take no for an answer. That, and it's all about the material!

What was the biggest challenge you faced on the movie for which you are nominated?

Keeping it going after its plug was pulled.

What was your most memorable moment on this movie?

The first test screening, and watching an audience fall in love with it.

What would be your dream movie project to work on?

A great musical!

What's the one thing that people would be shocked to know about you?

I'm a die hard fan of great musicals!

Do you use social media? If you tweet, what is your Twitter name?

Don't do it, too old!

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**Rachael Horovitz / Nominated for: Best Picture for "Moneyball"**

**What is your hometown? Where did you go to school?**

New York City, which is also where I live. I went to Phillips Academy Andover and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

**What was your first movie-going experience, and how did it affect you?**

It was either Mary Poppins or The Sound of Music - I'm not sure - but both gave me total joy - and still do.

**Did you watch the Oscars growing up? Was it a family experience? Do you recall a particular favorite Oscar moment?**

I did indeed. My father is a playwright and screenwriter and so nominees were often family friends (such as Al Pacino, John Cazale and Irwin Winkler). We always watched on my mother's bed and I will never forget the stalker or Jack Nicholson's hilarious speech to "all you people up in the rockies and down at the roxy, rock on" Jack Nicholson is my fave.

**When did you decide that you wanted to make movies? What influenced you? Who or what inspired you along the way?**

I started to make movies when I was 8 years old, influenced by my father's work in film - he gave me my own super 8 camera - and my parents' excitement when they would talk about films being made or when they went to Cannes one year and came home with a prize. 8 years old was a long time ago and I had many ambitions having nothing to do with film but I became a film producer in large part because I got a job in my early 20's working for a great producer, Dino De Laurentiis. It paid my rent and took me to Cannes and I suppose then I was hooked. In truth, I think my real aspiration was just to live in the south of France and watch movies but I had to work...I went on to a great job at New Line Cinema, had a film or two open Cannes, fell in love with my husband in Cannes..the rest is my history. Along the way I was inspired primarily by two things: watching great foreign films and being around great producers and filmmakers doing their work.

**What's the most valuable piece of advice you ever got in your career?**

"Don't shy away from strong opinions." told to me by producer Andrew Karsch. And "Keep fighting!" told to me by producer Laura Ziskin.

**What was the biggest challenge you faced on the movie for which you are nominated?**

The challenges were myriad; this was a difficult movie to get made that turned out to be a movie I truly love.

**What was your most memorable moment on this movie?**

There are hundreds of unforgettable moments over the nearly 9 years it has been since I first read the book but I cannot exaggerate the thrill of shooting the last two days of the movie at Fenway Park - after the epic journey to getting this movie in the can - with the ghosts of my two grandfathers in the bleachers and my young sons by my side - - that is a memorable Moneyball moment.

**What would be your dream movie project to work on?**

I want to make an epic film about New York in the days of Sugar Ray Robinson. I am trying.

**What's the one thing that people would be shocked to know about you?**

That despite my name I'm not Jewish

**Do you use social media? If you tweet, what is your Twitter name?**

I have a vague connection to social media but don't really know how to use it.