

TENTH ANNUAL
**MEDIA
THAT
MATTERS**

Lessons From A Tailor (8:23 min)

Directed by Galen Summer

Produced by Caitlin Dourmashkin



About the Film

The inspiration for this film came directly from the man himself. When I first met Martin Greenfield at his factory, with the intention of interviewing him for a lifetime achievement award he was receiving for his efforts as an employer and business owner in Bushwick, Brooklyn, it became clear that there was more to his story than mere success in business.

Here was a man who had pulled himself up from tragedy and hardship, who had survived one of the most horrific events of the 20th century, the Nazi holocaust, and yet still possessed a lightness of spirit.

Here was a man who had mastered the art of the perfectly tailored, hand-made suit, and now that art was slowly being forgotten by the rest of the world.

Here was a man who at 80 years of age still seemed to be at the height of his powers, who possessed the confidence to dictate the style and fashions of the power elite, just as he had been doing for the past half a century. It struck me as a unique opportunity to create a portrait of a person who had overcome great challenges in life, who had accumulated wisdom about clothes and about people, and who had become a humanitarian in the process.

Filmmaker Bios

Galen Summer studied film at Boston University's School of Communication. He has directed short narrative, documentary, and commercial films.

His latest film, *Lessons from a Tailor*, is a short documentary about a Brooklyn suit maker who learned his trade while imprisoned in a concentration camp during WWII. The film tells the inspiring story of an immigrant who found success in America and offers a glimpse inside one of the few remaining hand-made suit factories in the world. The award-winning film is currently being shown at film festivals and series around the country and has aired on PBS.

Galen is currently directing a collection of short documentary films for the New York City Ballet that explore the world behind the dancing.

Caitlin Dourmashkin is an urban planner and community advocate working in North Brooklyn.

She holds a masters degree in Urban Planning from Columbia University, where she focused on the intersection of planning, public participation and new media. In her work as a producer, Caitlin aims to link New York City's creative class with stories and characters that show the local side of the city's entrepreneurial spirit.

Take Action Links

Take Action with Dress for Success

(http://www.dressforsuccess.org/supportdfs_donate.aspx)

Help disadvantaged women get the clothes and support they need to walk into an interview with the confidence that lets them walk out with a smile.

Take Action with Kiva (<http://www.kiva.org/>)

Make a loan to new entrepreneurs all over the world and see how their business grows.

Take Action with Rotary Club

(<http://www.rotary.org/en/ServiceAndFellowship/Pages/ridefault.aspx>)

Using the Rotary Club motto of "Service Above Self", start a community or international project and make a difference locally and globally.

Take Action with the Kauffman Foundation

(<http://www.kauffman.org/entrepreneurship/minority-entrepreneurship.aspx>)

Discover the initiative behind Minority Entrepreneurship and learn about the Foundation's research on the infrastructure of cultural and social perceptions.

For more information about *Lessons From a Tailor* and the other films from the tenth annual Media That Matters Film Festival, visit www.mediathatmattersfest.org or contact us at festival@artsendine.net.



