

The General's Daughter / La Hija del General



Cine Chile Spotlight Part 2

Film Title: *The General's Daughter / La Hija del General* (Director: María Elena Wood, Chile, 2006, 59 minutes)

Spanish with English subtitles

Details: Thursday, May 24, Pacific Cinémathèque, 9:30pm, \$10

Brief Synopsis: The remarkable story of Michelle Bachelet – a socialist, single parent and agnostic who became the first woman President of Chile, one of South America's most conservative nations.

Full Synopsis: The General's Daughter tells the story of the life of Michelle Bachelet and her surprising journey along the road to the presidency of Chile. Despite being a socialist, a single parent and an agnostic, Dr. Bachelet succeeds in becoming the first woman President of Chile, one of South America's most conservative nations, and captures the attention of the world's press with her singularly female way of engaging with politics.

Chilean filmmaker María Elena Wood spent one year following this once anonymous doctor and socialist militant as she travelled through Chile on the campaign trail, discovering some of the forces motivating Dr. Bachelet and examining the high points in her personal and family life.

Through the letters written by her late father, a general in the Chilean Air Force imprisoned after Pinochet seized power in 1973, we learn the story of a middle-class Chilean family, so profoundly marked by the collapse of democracy and whose experiences are emblematic of Chile's recent history.

Director's Bio: A journalist from Universidad Católica de Chile, María Elena Wood has worked as an editor, columnist and adviser in content development for diverse communication media. She has lead programming projects for major Chilean television broadcasters and pay TV channels. The numerous challenges she has taken on include implementation of the Research and Development department of Televisión Nacional de Chile (TVN, 2001 -2003), executive production of the documentary series *Our Century* (1999), and executive co-production of the feature film *El Último Grumete de la Baquedano* (1982).