

American MASTERS

thirteen
WNET NEW YORK

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press information



PBS

AMERICAN MASTERS
is produced for PBS
by Thirteen/WNET
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Filmmaker Bio

The Brothers Warner, an AMERICAN MASTERS presentation

CASS WARNER

Producer, Writer, Director

Echoing the original motto set forth by her grandfather Harry Warner, president and co-founder of the Warner Bros. studio, Cass Warner founded Warner Sisters with the passion of carrying on a legacy to use film to "educate, entertain and enlighten" – the original motto for the studio. Accompanying her father, twice Oscar-nominated writer/producer Milton Sperling, to the Warner Bros. lot on Saturdays was where her fascination and dedication to this art form was born.

Warner began by studying acting. Finding the roles for women limiting, she expanded into screenwriting under the mentorship of her father and Howard Koch of *Casablanca* fame. Her affiliation with and admiration for Koch grew into a close friendship, which led to her being trusted with all his un-produced works – screenplays, plays, short stories and novels – which she is developing into a library.

In addition to writing and developing her own and others' screenplays, she authored a book documenting her forefathers' rags-to-riches tale, *The Brothers Warner* (formerly known as *Hollywood Be Thy Name: The Warner Brothers Story*).

She wrote, directed and hosted *Conversations with Cass*, a series of one-on-one conversations with some of today's most recognized actors and other notable personalities. She wrote, directed and produced *The Brothers Warner* with Oscar-winning editor Kate Amend (*Into The Arms of Strangers: Stories Of The Kindertransport*) and multi-Grammy Award-winning composer David Campbell (*Broke Back Mountain*).

Warner Sisters collaborated with Warner Bros. on a five-part series about the history of the studio and its films, *You Must Remember This: The Warner Bros. Story*, premiering on PBS' AMERICAN MASTERS September 23, 24 and 25, 2008.

In 2005, Warner became a founding supporter of the International Youth for Human Rights Film Festival, which encourages youth from ages 12-21 to use the medium of film to demonstrate their solutions regarding human rights issues. She is also a member of the International Documentary Association, American Film Institute, Film Independent, Digital Cinema Society, Women in Film, the Earth Organization, and Artists for Human Rights.

Warner continues to be a supporter and creative consultant of the restoration of her family's original theater in New Castle, Pennsylvania. She is presently developing a franchise around her family's story, and is in pre-production on her feature film, *A Shade Of Grey*.

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