

WILT CHAMBERLAIN: BORSCHT BELT BELLHOP

Directed and Produced by Caroline Laskow & Ian Rosenberg

A *30 for 30 Shorts* documentary produced by ESPN Films

Festival Premiere: Tribeca Film Festival - April 19, 2013

Running Time: 9 minutes

Contact: kutshersdoc@gmail.com; [Website](#); [Twitter](#); [Facebook](#)

Watch Online at [Grantland](#) or [ESPN.com](#)

Synopsis

In 1954, before his senior year of high school, Wilt Chamberlain took a summer job that would change his life. He worked as a bellhop at Kutsher's Country Club, a Jewish resort in the Catskill Mountains. By day he was making \$2 an hour and getting great tips from the awestruck guests as he lifted their luggage through a second floor window while standing outside on the ground. At night, he played on the Kutsher's basketball team and was coached hard by the resort's athletic director, the soon-to-be legendary Red Auerbach. Mixing rarely-seen archival video and interviews with people who lived and worked with Wilt during that magical summer, this documentary short reveals an unexplored and pivotal chapter in the life of one of basketball's greatest players, and a fascinating glimpse of a time when a very different era of basketball met the Borscht Belt in its heyday.

Directors' Bios - Caroline Laskow and Ian Rosenberg

Caroline and Ian have been documenting the Borscht Belt since 2007, when they began filming *Welcome to Kutsher's: The Last Catskills Resort*. This feature documentary, about the heyday and decline of a legendary, *Dirty Dancing*-style hotel, premiered as the closing night selection of the New York Jewish Film Festival at Lincoln Center in 2012.

Caroline's previous directing credits include the yoga documentary *Ashtanga, NY* which premiered in 2003 at the Tribeca Film Festival; and the narrative short *Not A F***ing Blonde* which premiered at the San Francisco Asian-American Film Festival in 2006.

In addition to her film work, Caroline writes about going gray at fromthetipoftheiceberg.blogspot.com and is co-author of the upcoming cookbook [Soup Club](#), which will be published by Random House in 2014.

Ian received an Emmy nomination in 2010 for producing the HBO documentary *Finishing Heaven*, directed by Mark Mann. Ian is cofounder

of the multi-media arts collective OVO, for which he produced the 2006 documentary *World's Best Prom*. For OVO, he has directed the Off-Off Broadway premieres of *Hold, Portland, Rubberville* and *Love Research* and the video installation *Grand Street*.

Caroline and Ian are married and live with their two children on the Lower East Side in New York. *Wilt Chamberlain: Borscht Belt Bellhop* is their second directing collaboration.

Credits

Directed and Produced by
Caroline Laskow & Ian Rosenberg

Edited by
D.S. Fuller

Featuring
Sandy Ader
Tommy Kearns
Mark Kutsher
Ray Scott

Shot by
D.S. Fuller
Michael Halsband
Stephan Mazurek

Assistant Producer
Lili Kundera

Special Thanks
Cecil Mosenson, Wilt's High School Coach
Darryl Patterson
Raja Sethuraman/Gloss Studio
Howard Sann
Tim Casey
Jim Stark and the Michigan Sports Hall of Fame
Courtney and David Horowitz
Julie Peacock
Alice & Leo Rosenberg

Archival Material

Mark and Carla Kutsher

Karen Wilson

Howard Sann

Paul Sann

Seth Rogovin

Shelly Goldstein

Cookie and George Morris

WABC

Getty Images

T3 Media

Grinberg Film Library

The New York Times

Associated Press

Corbis

Special Collections Research Center, Temple University Libraries, Philadelphia, PA

All music provided courtesy of APM.

FOR ESPN FILMS

Executive Producers

John Dahl

Connor Schell

Bill Simmons

Producer

Daniel Silver

Consulting Producers

David Cho

Dan Fierman

Production Assistants

Brian D'Ostilio

Kyle Godwin

Additional Production Support

Jenna Anthony

Andy Billman

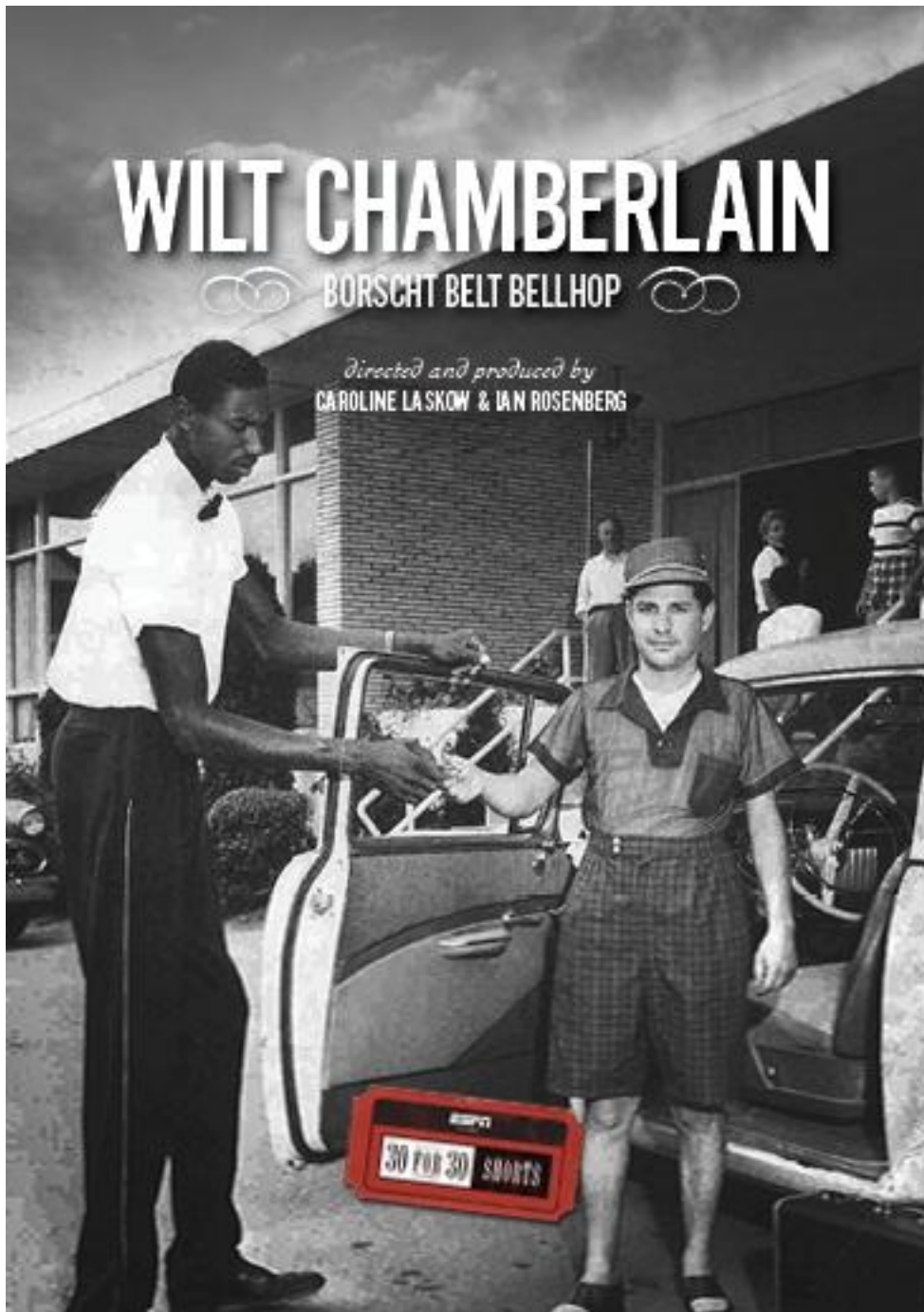
Michael Cupo

Sean Fennessey
Libby Geist
Sarah Larimer
Juliet Litman
Michael Philbrick
Tom Picard
Jennifer Thorpe

© 2013 ESPN, Inc., All Right Reserved

Poster image is below...

Poster



Caroline Laskow & Ian Rosenberg
Directors/Producers

Wilt Chamberlain: Borscht Belt Bellhop and
Welcome to Kutsher's: The Last Catskills Resort

kutshersdoc@gmail.com

[facebook.com/kutshers](https://www.facebook.com/kutshers)

website: kutshersdoc.jimdo.com

twitter: [@Kutshersdoc](https://twitter.com/Kutshersdoc)

Watch *Wilt* on ESPN and Grantland