

B O R N
T O
P L A Y

A Film By **VIRIDIANA LIEBERMAN**

PARK PICTURES



An aerial night view of a sports stadium. The central feature is a brightly lit green football field with white yard lines and a goalpost at the far end. To the left of the football field are two tennis courts, also illuminated. The stadium seating areas are visible on the right side. The entire scene is set against a dark background of city lights and a starry night sky.

*What if you were born to do something that doesn't exist?
You create your own destiny.*



BORN TO PLAY

Spend a season with the Boston Renegades, a women's tackle football team on a path for redemption after going undefeated and losing their championship the previous year. These unpaid athletes put their bodies on the line while maintaining full time careers that support their lifelong dream... proving that football is for everyone.

RUN TIME 93min

YEAR 2020

BROADCASTS THUS FAR ESPN 7/1

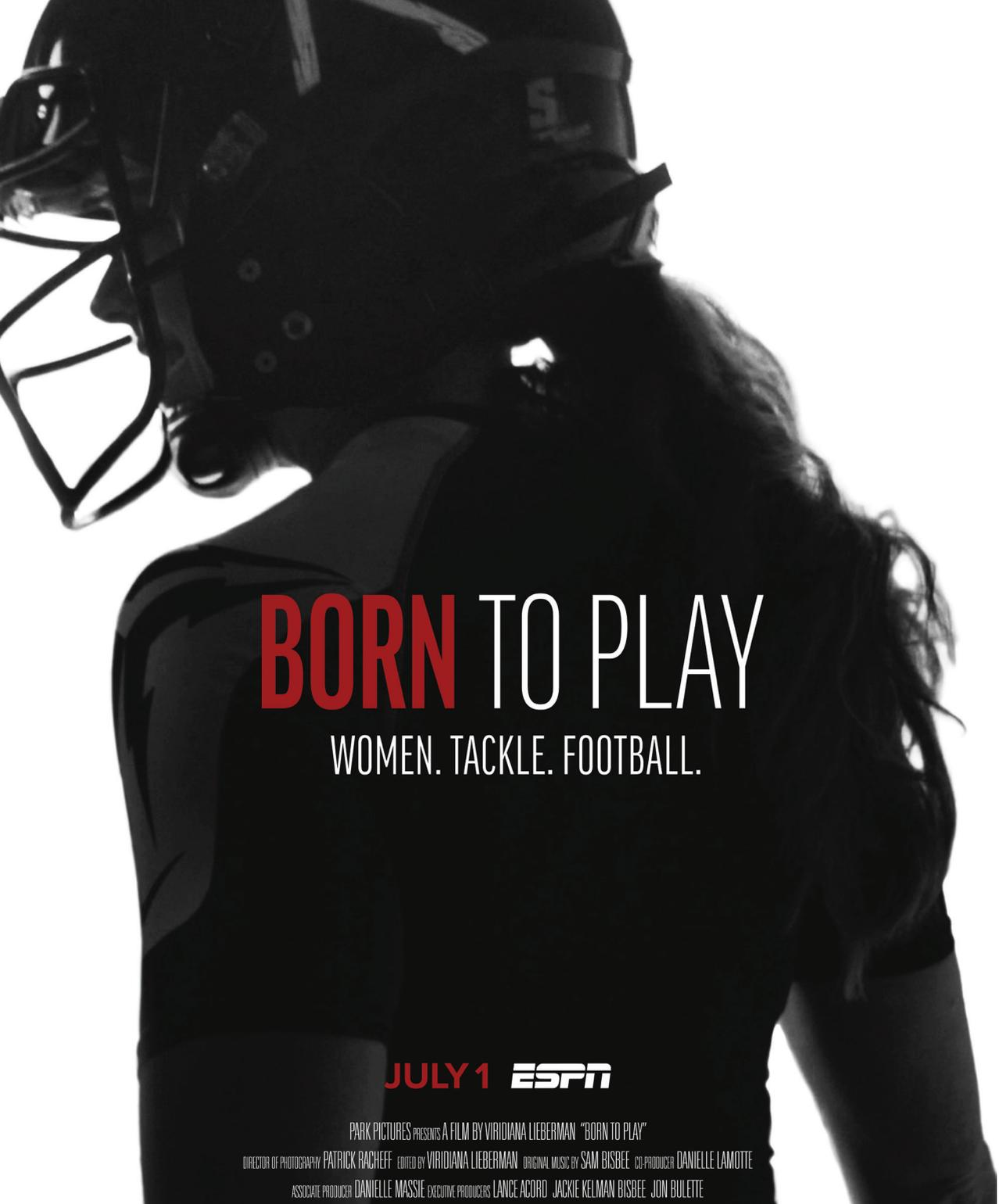
ABC 7/18

ESPN2 7/26



TRAILER

Premiered exclusively on People.com



BORN TO PLAY

WOMEN. TACKLE. FOOTBALL.

JULY 1 **ESPN**

PARK PICTURES PRESENTS A FILM BY VIRIDIANA LIEBERMAN "BORN TO PLAY"
DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY PATRICK RACHEFF EDITED BY VIRIDIANA LIEBERMAN ORIGINAL MUSIC BY SAM BISBEE CO-PRODUCER DANIELLE LAMOTTE
ASSOCIATE PRODUCER DANIELLE MASSIE EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS LANCE ACORD JACKIE KELMAN BISBEE JON BULETTE

PRESES



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EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS LANCE ACORD JACKIE KELMAN BISBEE JON BULETTE PRODUCED BY THEODORA DUNLAP SAM BISBEE VIRIDIANA LIEBERMAN DIRECTED BY VIRIDIANA LIEBERMAN



BORN TO PLAY

Critics Consensus
No consensus yet.



100%

Coming soon
Release date:



How ESPN Documentary 'Born to Play' Shows Football in Its 'Purest Form' (EXCLUSIVE CLIP)

By Audrey Cleo Yap ▾



Women's Football Is Ubiquitous in America — Yet No One Knows About It

In her new ESPN documentary, "Born to Play," director Viridiana Lieberman tells the story of the Boston Renegades and the world of women's football that rivals the NFL.



New England Patriots @Patriots · Jul 1
A story of passion, perseverance and proof that football is for everyone.

Tune in as our fellow New England football team, [@GoRenegades](#), is featured in [@BornToPlayMovie](#) tonight at 9 on [@espn](#)

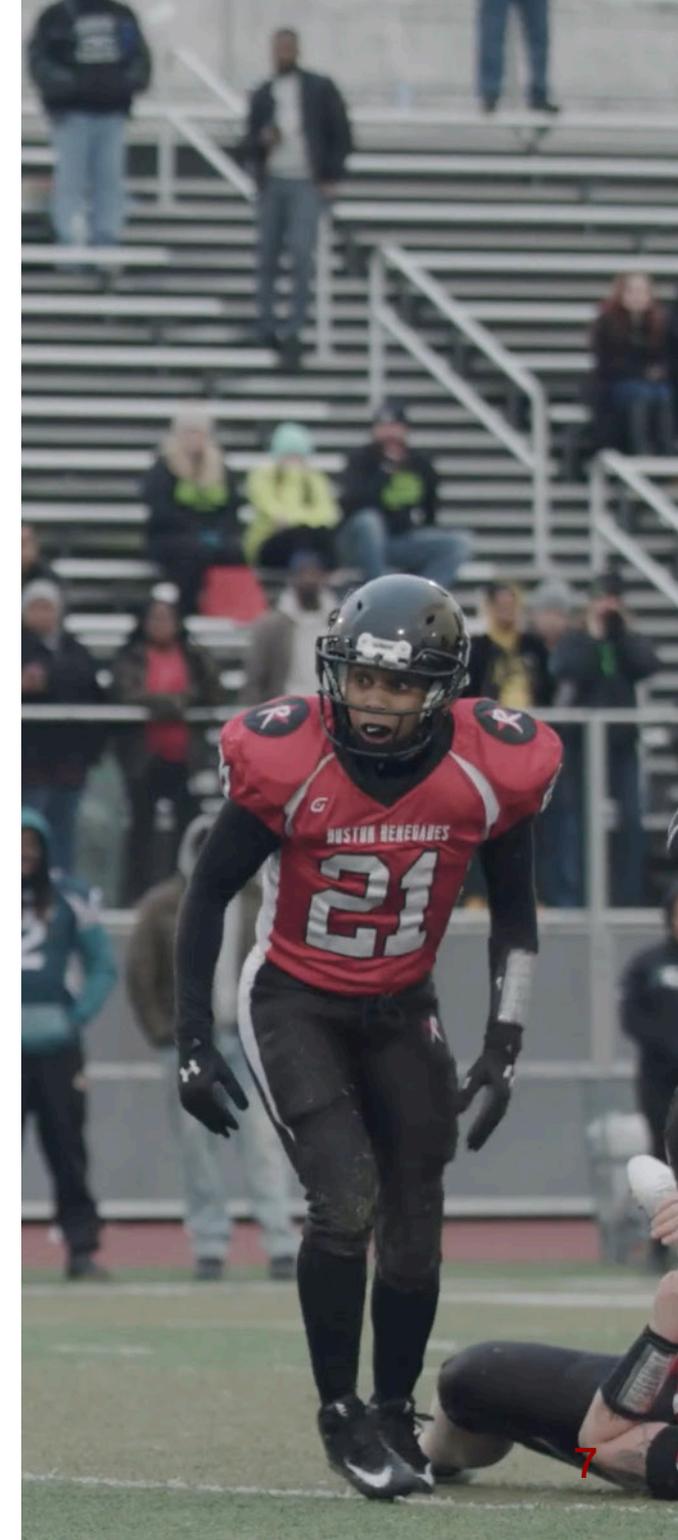


Leading up to its July 1st prime-time premiere on ESPN, BORN TO PLAY garnered several notable press features including an interview with director & editor Viridiana Lieberman in the *Boston Globe*, an exclusive trailer premiere in *People*, an exclusive clip premiere in *Variety*, and a tweet of support from the New England Patriots.

Since the film's premiere and two subsequent airings on ABC and ESPN2 critics and fans have voiced strong and consistent praise for both the film and the way in which it shines a light on the inequalities of women's sports and the amazing abilities and heart of its athletes. To this day BORN TO PLAY holds a 100% rating on *Rotten Tomatoes*.

Entertainment Weekly wrote that BORN TO PLAY "hones in on the spirit, tenacity, and dedication of the Renegades." *Ready, Set, Cut* wrote that "Born to Play is a documentary feature about a women's tackle football team, but it's about so much more than that. If you have even a passing interest in the power of sport, then this is one to add to your lockdown playlist."

"(Field) goal achieved"
- *Entertainment Weekly*, **Gerrad Hall**





"Lieberman somehow manages to capture so many of the key features that make sport so incredibly relatable and actually manages to enhance them."

*- Ready, Steady, Cut, **Andrew Punter***

"Captures lightning in a bottle"
- Cambridge Day, **Tom Meek**





BOSTON GLOBE ["Documentary about Boston Renegades women's football team to debut on ESPN Wednesday"](#)

BOSTON HERALD ["ESPN doc tackles Renegades - Boston's champ women's tackle football team"](#)

CAMBRIDGE DAY ["Coronavirus edition, XVII: Films to shelter with, from Boston Renegades to..."](#)

ENTERTAINMENT WEEKLY ["Women's football team takes the field in rousing doc Born to Play"](#)

ENTERTAINMENT OR DIE ["Review: ESPN's Doc on Women's Football Hits Hard"](#)

MOVEABLE FEST ["Review: Viridiana Lieberman's "Born to Play" Charts a Game of Inches"](#)

READY, STEADY, CUT ["Born to Play review - ESPN keeps its hot streak going"](#)

SHONDALAND ["Women's Football Is Ubiquitous in America - Yet No One Knows About It"](#)

DIRECTOR & EDITOR Viridiana Lieberman is a filmmaker and writer based in Brooklyn, NY. She edited the feature documentary I AM EVIDENCE (Tribeca 2017, HBO), which won a 2019 News & Doc Emmy for Best Documentary and the short documentary LOVE THE SINNER (Tribeca 2017). She edited SPECIAL OLYMPICS: 50 YEARS OF CHANGING THE GAME which aired in 2018 on ABC and ESPN and THE SENTENCE (HBO), which won the 2018 Sundance Film Festival US Documentary Audience Award and the 2019 Emmy for Exceptional Merit in Documentary Filmmaking.

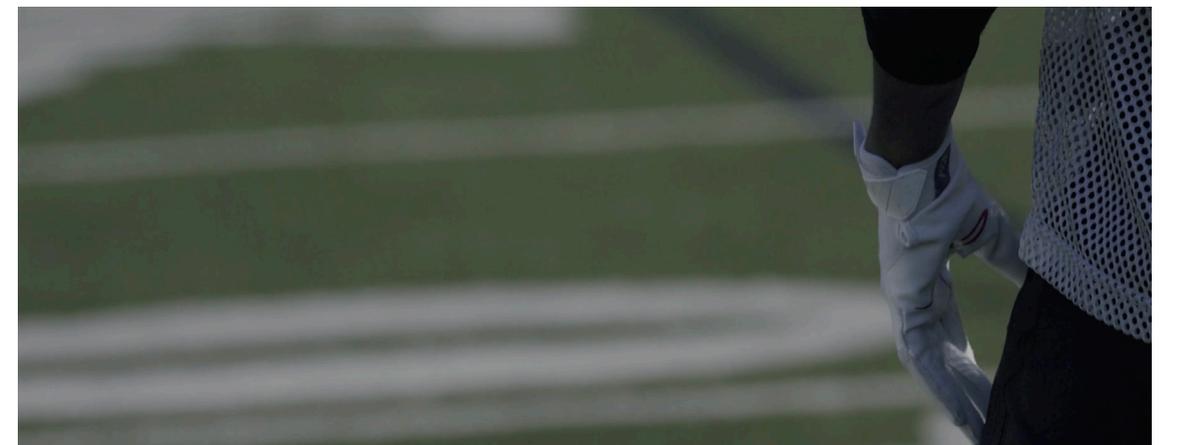
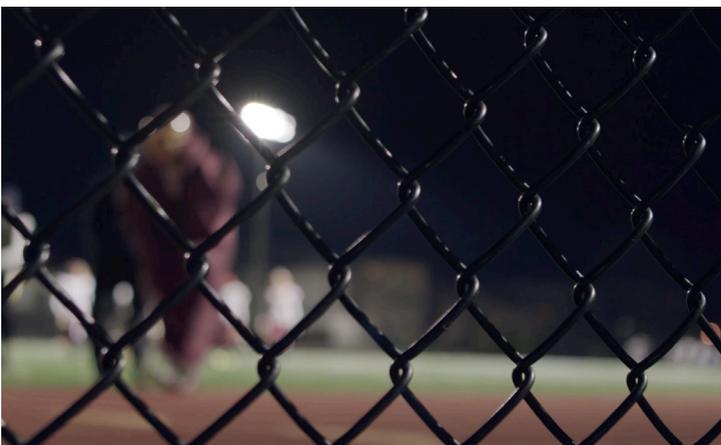
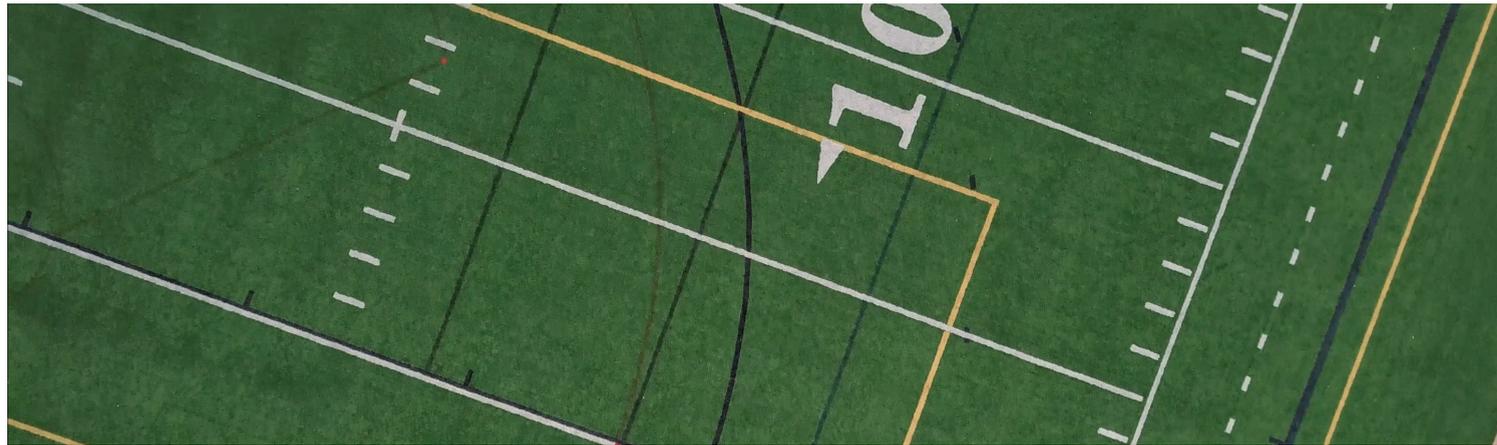




Lieberman - literally - wrote the book on gender depiction in film, "Sports Heroines on Film: A Critical Study of Cinematic Women Athletes, Coaches and Owners," (McFarland Publishing, 2015).



What began as research and investigation became a passion and commitment to create what was missing from cinema: an authentic, visually stunning portrait of female athletes pursuing professional greatness in sport.





T H A N K Y O U

PARK  CTURES

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