

# Betting On Zero

*Betting On Zero* began with a hunch that the clash between two surprising antagonists - a hedge fund manager on a moral crusade and a nutrition company accused of being a massive international pyramid scheme - had enough dramatic fuel to allow me explore the place of money in the American dream.

I wasn't disappointed and, working with great subjects and a great team of collaborators, we found a story that revealed justice, as much as wealth, is a promise America holds out to its citizens and the world. Shaping the emotional experience of all that for an audience, and helping me discover its thematic core, fell to composer Pete Anthony whose brilliant score evokes the yearnings of the principal characters in the film: the drive to unravel a mystery, to vanquish a titanic rival, and to dream of a better life.

— Ted Braun, director

The score for *Betting On Zero* is performed by a live orchestra of talented musicians. This approach is consonant with director Ted Braun's approach to documentary filmmaking, where real people are the center of the story, and their emotional experiences the heart of the film. The score, performed live in the moment by real musicians, reflects this humanist esthetic.

"It has been a pleasure to reunite on a project with Ted Braun. He is the ideal "coach" in a creative endeavor - at times providing firm leadership, at others loosening the reins, and always finding ways to bring out the best work from every member of his team. Under Ted's direction, my intent in the score was to provide specific emotional support while maintaining a consistent thematic thread. Ted's advice to me became the maxim of this project:

"No need to do five things, when one or two will do." Wiser words were never spoken to a composer in this medium!

— Pete Anthony, composer