TRANSCRIPT: Eduardo Carriazo (with Jamilah Watson)

Where were you born?

I was born in South Cali, Colombia in 1960.

Where did you grow up?

I grew up mainly in Colombia, when I was seventeen I moved to Ecuador where I attended college.

What was your childhood like?

I had a fantastic childhood with very loving parents, and I was always very creative as a child. My parents really encouraged my creativity.

What type of culture did you grow up around?

In Colombia, specifically South Cali at the time there was a mix of Colombian, and Spanish culture. I remember this reflected in the different types of dances and traditions. The Spanish influence was very strong. I grew up in a very diverse town similar to the people.

What is the extent of your college education?

After high school I attended college at a small University in Ecuador. Here I decided that I wanted to pursue architecture. I thought that this would be an outlet to express my artistic talents. After studying architecture for a year, I decided I no longer wanted to pursue it.

I switched my undergraduate to Biology and I also focused on language. After finishing college I worked as a tour guide in the Galapagos Islands for eight and a half years. By this time I had previously gotten the chance to travel to France, and I had learned French, and I had already been learning English. I then traveled to the United States to attend The University of Southern California, where I received my Masters of Science in marine, and molecular biology.

When did you decide you wanted to pursue a career in art?

After working in UCLA'S biological research department, I decided I wanted to obtain my degree in art. I attended Florida State where I received my bachelor's degree, and then master's degree in fine arts.

What inspires your paintings?

While obtaining my master's degree in art, I researched and showed the role paintings had on the reflection of the attitudes of western culture. That research still inspires many of my past and current pieces.

I was interested in a painting in particular called *Chrysalis*. I couldn't help but wonder if there was a deeper meaning behind it?

Yes there is. That painting is actually a self-portrait, and it deals with perceiving personal identity, and at the same time not being sure of what exactly your identity is.

That is very interesting. That is plenty of information, thank you so much for taking the time to answer my questions.

No problem, feel free to email me with any other questions you may have.