Christina McHale Interview

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Just when some thought the fat lady was about to sing, Christina McHale stopped the music. Fighting her way into the 3rd round at the US Open this year [2013], she left no question in the minds of naysayers: this American is not done. She has only just begun.

Krista White: What inspires you? What drives you to train and to fight until the last point?

Christina McHale: When I think about all that my grandparents risked to leave Cuba, it inspires me to do better everyday. I want to achieve more. And I don't mind working hard.

KW: Why did your grandparents have to leave Cuba?

CM: In Cuba, my grandpa was a journalist and could see that Castro would not do what he had promised to do. So, the new government told him to leave. He and my grandma had to live in a refuge camp in Spain for a year. They had nothing, no money. They were hungry. Luckily they were able to get to the United States.

KW: Their spirit continues on in you. Your family must be very proud.

CM: People say that I'm a good fighter on court. And I think that comes from them. I see how far they have come. I see how they fought.

Photo credit: Krista L. White, 2013, Arthur Ashe Stadium.

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