



# SUPERVISOR'S ASSESSMENT OF A WRITTEN THESIS

**Thesis title:** Mark Travis' Interrogation Process  
Toward a new methodology for directing Actors  
**Thesis author:** Vasco Maria Basto Viana  
**Programme of study:** Cinema and Digital Media, Directing  
**Programme type:** Master's in Cinema and Digital Media

## **Definition of objectives and their fulfilment: 10**

Vasco Viana's underlying exploration of Mark Travis's Interrogation Process, Toward a new methodology for directing Actors, broke fresh academic ground and thoroughly met his selected objectives. His conclusions came full circle in scope and sequence through meticulous historical research and interviews he did with professional directors. *Accordingly, a score of 10 is warranted here.*

## **Topicality of the thesis topic (and relevance of the selected methodology in the case of a Master's thesis): 10**

The topic of Vasco's thesis is relevant to faculty and students at FAMU and beyond who study film directing and to whom new contemporary directing methodologies are relevant. *Accordingly, a score of 10 is warranted here.*

## **Scholarly contribution, originality of the thesis, and its utilisation in practice: 5**

There has been little written about Mark Travis' Interrogation Process, so Viana is carving out new territory with this thesis, especially in his interviews and lengthy conversations with renowned professional directors FAMU graduate Agnieszka Holland, Jon Amiel, Sean Cunningham and George Tillman Jr. *Accordingly, a score of 5 is warranted here.*

**Logical construction and structuring of the thesis: 10**

Vasco writes exceptionally well and in a consistent mature style. Further, while his work has a strongly defined foundational architecture, it remains always easy to follow and understand. *Accordingly, a score of 10 is warranted here.*

**Formal requirements and requisite contents of the thesis, including its length: 20**

Vasco's work meets the requirements for his thesis in full with regards to formal requirements, requisite content and length. *Accordingly, a score of 20 is warranted here.*

**Level of language, style and terminology: 5**

Vasco's work is sophisticated and thorough. His writing style is fluid yet dynamic, and both clear and declarative, while his discussions 'on the page' profit from his thorough knowledge of film terms and techniques. *Accordingly, a score of 5 is warranted here.*

**Reviewer's opinion on the result of the check by the Theses system :15**

Vasco met all the benchmarks as required by the thesis system *in full*. *Accordingly, a score of 15 is warranted here.*

**Evaluator's overall summary 25+: 100**

**Questions and topics for discussion at the oral defence:**

- 1- What is Mark Travis' Interrogation Process?
- 2- How does Mark Travis' Interrogation Process function as a contemporary directing methodology?
- 3- What are the conceptual connections between the Interrogation Process and the existing historical acting theories of the 20th century?
- 4- How do professional contemporary film directors view the Interrogation Process?
- 5- What connections have you established between the ideas in Mark Travis' Interrogation Process and the directing methodologies used by top film professionals today?
- 6- How does Mark Travis' Interrogation Process mesh with the current curriculum taught at FAMU?
- 7- How valuable a tool is the Interrogation Process as a directing methodology for student directors like you working today with actors in film school?

**Recommendation of the thesis  
for the oral defence: YES  
Recommended grade: A+  
Date of elaboration of this  
assessment: May 22.2023**

...Susan Stratton. ....

Name of the thesis supervisor

May 22, 2023  
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.. ss stratton ..  
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(Date and Signature)