

**For Immediate Release**

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## **MEDIA UPDATE**

### **A Miami Dad's Spy Story Revealed for First Time Ever at *Isla Vulnerable* Book Launch Event**

**Miami, FL (June 16, 2023)** – Days before Father's day, Miami author Ivan Luiz Hernandez unveiled the top secret story of his father Ezequiel "Red" Hernandez—the only known survivor of his covert CIA unit—during a book signing at the historical Miracle Theatre in Coral Gables.

Ivan's new book *Isla Vulnerable* is a dramatized account of his father's remarkable life as a US spy in the sixties, and is based on real, fascinating events that were finally revealed during this spy-themed experience. Among cocktails, exclusive "spycraft" giveaways, and a book signing, the event featured a thought-provoking discussion with Ivan and his father. The group was hosted by Miami psychologist Dr. Michelle Gonzalez with interviews that covered themes of privacy, deception, ambition, vulnerability, and resilience—all themes within *Isla Vulnerable*.

Highlights included:

- Confirmation that the CIA unit the Comandos Mambises did indeed exist and operate from Miami with a safehouse in Coconut Grove, during the time the CIA was headquartered in Coral Gables
- New insights on US intentions and involvement in the assassination of JFK
- The announcement of "The Ezequiel Hernandez Collection" installment at the University of Miami's Cuban Heritage Collection
- Revelations of the deeply emotional inspirations behind Ivan's journey in writing his new book
- The premier of the *Isla Vulnerable* book trailer

*Isla Vulnerable* is now available in most US retail and online bookshops in hardcover for \$24.95, and as an ebook for \$4.99. Watch the trailer and find out more at [ivanluizhernandez.com/books](http://ivanluizhernandez.com/books).

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### **About Ivan Luiz Hernandez**

Ivan Luiz Hernandez is a writer, business consultant, and entrepreneur dedicated to bringing unique stories and ideas to life. As a former brand executive and college professor of marketing, he conceived and headlined creative campaigns for category-leading brands. Through his consultancy practice Sociumship, he has helped launch, grow and transform businesses of all sizes, across more than 20 industries.

Ivan began writing as therapy to overcome PTSD. The son of a former US spy, Ivan always felt his family was different. The unusual events he experienced as a child inspired him to finally tell his family's riveting story in his first book *Isla Vulnerable*. When he's not writing or consulting, Ivan actively volunteers for mental health causes. Follow/visit/contact @ivanluizhernandez.com for more.

### **About *Isla Vulnerable***

Based on a true story, *Isla Vulnerable*—Winner of the CIBA Hemingway Book Award—shares the journey of a poor farm boy named Victor Gomez who transforms into a US spy, while falling for the very public Sarita Rodriguez at the height of the Cuban revolution. The book is available in most US retail and online bookshops in hardcover for \$24.95, and as an ebook for \$4.99. Find out more at [ivanluizhernandez.com/books](http://ivanluizhernandez.com/books).