

In the privacy of his family, and under the guidance of his father, Warner was able to develop into an all-round artist. At the age of 17 he not only had a tightrope routine but was also part of a flying trapeze act and he demonstrated his ability in a highly dangerous solo trapeze act. He performed this at a height of fifteen metres without a safety net.

Warner Guerrero lives a life of awareness and good health. He does not smoke, eats and drinks in moderation and sees to it that he gets a lot of sleep and rest.

Like many of his colleagues he is very religious. Still, his body carries the scars of many accidents, which he laughs off as the hazards of the job.

His marriage and the birth of a daughter have not made him more cautious. He continues to take risks and to explore the limits of his possibilities. He is the only artist in the world with an act in which, standing on the shoulders of his wife, he walks a fifteen-metre high rope. He never uses a safety net. Incidentally, Warner used to perform this act with his sisters.

At the 15th Festival Prince Rainier of Monaco forbade Warner to perform an act which in his eyes was too dangerous.

It concerned the act in which Warner is seated on a chair on the rope with his wife standing on his shoulders.

Stubborn and over-confident Warner nevertheless performed the act and his



achievement was rewarded with a Silver Clown. Two years later he returned to Monte Carlo with an act of even greater suspense and for the second time he received a Silver Clown.

In the Royal Circus Theatre Carré in Amsterdam, Warner held in 1994 a family reunion. Together with the other members of the Guerrero dynasty he built a pyramid of seven people on the wire. The top of the pyramid was formed by a lady balancing on a chair.

According to Warner the limit of his possibilities has not yet been reached. 'My next stunt is an eight-man high pyramid on the wire', he promised everyone who wanted to hear it. Another of his acts involved jumping over three huddled colleagues on a rope.

However, his nerve-racking performances gradually begin to leave their mark on him. For he, the superman of the circus, is and remains a human being. He once confided to me (Roland Smulders) that he is terrified at night.

'I always have to lie against something, against a wall or against my wife, I need something to hold on to'. I asked him why then he went on taking risks every day. He gave me a laconic answer.

As a little boy his father told him that the more dangerous an act, the less likely he would have any competition. High up in the circus tent Warner Guerrero meets his ultimate challenge. The consequences of his choice.