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Filled with Excitement: Eva and Her Pornographic Performances

For many commentators, acting in porn is not a job, rarely is it considered a skill, it is a cheat, a con trick perpetrated on women (Dworkin, Griffin etc). Moreover the idea that pornography is a document – the facsimile of a contemporaneously occurring event – is one shared by porn producers, consumers and critics. Thus Linda Lovelace,^[1] interviewed by Diana Helfrecht in 1973, agreed her performance was genuine, ‘Right! It’s me and that’s what I can do, and how I really am’ - beginning a long tradition of women claiming that appearing in pornography was a natural outcome of their own sexual proclivities. Focusing on the performance and presentation styles of porn star Eva Angelina and examining her various interviews and the online chat between fans which discusses her films, body and professional identity this paper argues that there is more to a porn actor's performance and public persona than simply being there and doing sex for the camera to record.

[1] Linda Boreman, later Marchiano, star of *Deep Throat*.