



Overseas Press Club of America

BULLETIN

Experts Discuss Current Risks and Rewards of Video Journalism

BY CHAD BOUCHARD

OVER THE last two decades, newspapers and other traditional print media have been under increasing pressure to provide video and multimedia content. But in today's era of ubiquitous cell phone cameras, viral distribution, and manipulated content, video storytelling comes with many pitfalls. On Oct. 18, a panel of experts gathered for a panel to present a "Video 101" seminar on perils and best practices of using video footage.

"Video is an essential part of storytelling, and of any news organization's content mix," said OPC Secretary Paula Dwyer of Bloomberg News, who moderated the panel. But she added that print journalists who are expected to shoot video now have to learn new skills because "the technology differs, the way you tell the story is different, ethics involved are different, the framing of the story is different."

One panelist was Priscila Neri, the senior program manager for Witness. Her group trains people around the world on how to use video and technology to document human rights violations, with a focus on using footage ethically and thoughtfully without re-victimizing people who are involved in the videos.

She said despite the risks, video has empowered



CHAD BOUCHARD

Left to right: Sara Obeidat, Priscila Neri, Erica Anderson and Paula Dwyer.

citizens around the world to challenge oppression, impunity and inequality.

"We're going to have to do some work on media literacy, and on making sense of volume, and sorting what's real and what's not, but for me in the end, when I think about our partners who are defying odds to tell that stories that we haven't heard through that perspective, that's something that can only be good in the long run."

She said in many cases Witness advises people with sensitive video footage to refrain from posting it publicly at all, or to delay and use it more strategically. In one case, someone who witnessed

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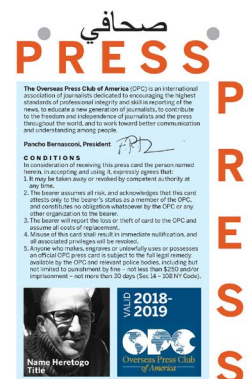
Price of OPC Press ID Badges Cut to \$40

THE OPC has signed up a new printer to make the large, government-style OPC press ID badges. We can now print badges as often as once a month, and have cut the price to \$40 from \$50. The dues year started Oct. 1, so if you order now the badge will be valid for almost a year. To request a badge, email patricia@opcofamerica.org and attach a color, high-resolution, close-up face shot. (No

Purchase
an OPC Press
Badge.

profiles or black-and-white photos, please). All members who have paid their dues for 2018-2019 can order a badge. You can pay via the gold button, or send a check to the Overseas Press Club of America at 40 West 45th Street, New York, NY 10036.

We will make badges only for those who have paid dues and the badge fee. As always, the credit-card sized press ID is available for free upon request. ❖



Panelists Say Murders of Journalists Are Simply a 'Reality' in Russia

EVENT RECAP

BY CHAD BOUCHARD

ON SEPT. 20, several OPC members attended a performance of the play "Intractable Woman, A Theatrical Memo on Anna Politkovskaya," which covered the interrogation, trial and assassination of the Russian journalist and human rights activist. Politkovskaya reported extensively on the Second Chechen War for the independent daily *Novaya Gazeta* and was killed in her Moscow apartment building in 2006.

Following the performance, a panel of journalists discussed Politkovskaya's legacy, as well as their own experiences covering conflict and corruption in Russia and elsewhere in the region.

The moderator was OPC member Judith Matloff, an author and journalism professor at Columbia University who has specialized in writing about conflict. Matloff, who was based in Moscow in the late 90s, said the play brought back memories of the country's quick slide into authoritarianism under Vladimir Putin, who came to power at the very end of 1999.

"In the late 90s there was still a very robust critical media, and

you could report fairly transparently with some exceptions like the war in Chechnya," she said. "And that all stopped under Putin. The crackdown on independent media and voices began immediately, and one by one journalists lost their jobs, faced death threats, they were beaten, and like Anna, murdered."

Matloff said that to date, 17 journalists have been assassinated under the Putin regime, and 60 journalists attacked just since 2006.

Elena Kostyuchenko, a special correspondent for Anna's paper, *Novaya Gazeta*, said the number of journalists killed in Russia is closer to 200, though the numbers are difficult to track.

"Murders of journalists is part of Russian reality," she said, adding that the newspaper has shown through tenacity that the assassination of journalists is not an effective way to quash journalism. "Despite very tough conditions for journalism in Russia, many young and aspiring journalists still come to *Novaya Gazeta* and want to do good work. And they all read Anna's articles" for inspiration, she added.

Kostyuchenko's paper is the last independent newspaper in



CHAD BOUCHARD

Left to right: Judith Matloff, Elena Kostyuchenko, Misha Friedman and Zach Fannin.

Russia, and is co-owned among staff members. At least three other staff members from the paper have been murdered since Anna's death, she said.

Chillingly, less than a month after the discussion, a funeral wreath and a severed goat's head were sent to the *Novaya Gazeta* Moscow office with written threats against reporter Denis Korotkov, who has reported on Russia's military operations in Syria, among other stories.

Misha Friedman, a Russia-born photographer based in New York who has worked extensively in Russia and Ukraine, said photographers are predominantly freelancers, so they are subject to different risks than staffers. He said risks are also increased because photographers have to get physically close to their subjects and "report consequences" in stories.

Friedman called for editors to be more considerate about risks in

the field, and to avoid pressuring freelancers to push safety limits.

Zach Fannin, a freelance journalist who won several awards for "Inside Putin's Russia," a PBS NewsHour series, recounted how he and other members of his team were arrested while reporting on Russians joining ISIS in Dagestan.

"All [the police] wanted us to do was delete the footage. But luckily, they left us in the police car alone, and I took one of the two disks out of the camera, gave it to Roman [Stepanovych], our local producer, who hid it somewhere, and then convinced the police by saying 'look, I didn't even press record yet, this is an empty disk and there is no footage.'"

Fannin co-produced the series with OPC member Nick Schiffrin in collaboration with the Pulitzer Center on Crisis Reporting. The post-show panel was part of Play Company's Idea Lab series. ♦

Panel to Discuss Taiwan's Future Amid a 'New Cold War' Between the US and China

EVENT PREVIEW: OCT 30

CHINA AND the United States appear headed for a new Cold War, in the view of some experts. Trade, military and diplomatic tensions are mounting. Taiwan, the self-governing island of 23 million people, is caught in between. An increasingly aggressive Beijing is projecting military power in the South China Sea and conducting war games near Taiwan. President Donald Trump's administration has increased support for Taiwan above what most previous U.S. governments have offered. Will Beijing resort to actual military action

to force Taiwan to join what it considers the motherland? Will Trump's actions increase the chances of stability or conflict?

On Oct. 30, the OPC will host a panel discussion to explore these and other questions facing Taiwan. William J. Holstein, past OPC President and former Beijing bureau chief for United Press International, will moderate. The panel will feature Andrew Nathan, a professor at Columbia University and one of America's foremost experts on China and its foreign policy; Russell Hsiao, executive director of the nonprofit think tank Global Taiwan Institute in Washington,

which seeks to improve Taiwan's international relations; and Richard Bernstein, formerly based in China for *TIME* magazine and a veteran of several foreign postings for *The New York Times*. Bernstein is also author of numerous books, including *The Coming Conflict with China* (1997).

The event will begin at 6:00 p.m. at Club Quarters with a reception – beverages and appetizers will be provided – and the discussion will begin at 6:30 p.m. Reservations are essential. Click on the gold button or visit the OPC website to RSVP. ♦

Click here to RSVP for the Taiwan panel.

OPC to Screen 'FREELANCERS' Series Pilot and Host Discussion with Director Bill Gentile

EVENT PREVIEW: NOV. 14

THE OPC will host a screening and discussion of a pilot episode for "FREELANCERS with Bill Gentile," a documentary series about the work and personal struggles of a new generation of journalists searching for truth, purpose and meaning in the most challenging and complex countries in the world.

Following the screening, the host of the program, veteran foreign correspondent Bill Gentile, will moderate a discussion with freelance journalists to discuss how to cope with hardship and risk in the field – without the traditional support or security of staff correspondents. Other panelists include Sulome Anderson, a journalist based in Beirut, Lebanon and New York City. Her work has appeared in outlets including *The Atlantic*, *Foreign Policy*, NBC News, *Newsweek*, *Harper's* and *Esquire*. Her book, *The Hostage's Daughter*, was published by HarperCollins in 2016.

Also joining the panel will be Natalie Keyssar, a documentary photographer based in Brooklyn, New York. Her work focuses on class inequality, youth culture, and the personal effects of political turmoil and violence, primarily in the US and Latin America. Keyssar has contributed to publications such as *The New York Times Magazine*, *TIME*, Bloomberg Businessweek and *California Sunday Magazine*, and has won numerous awards. In 2018 she was named the ICP Infinity Emerging Photographer of the Year.

Rounding out the speaker list is Jason Motlagh, a writer, broadcast journalist and filmmaker whose work focuses on conflict and human rights. He has reported from more than fifty countries and a half-dozen conflicts spanning West Africa to Southeast Asia for *National Geographic*, *Rolling Stone*, *Outside*, *The Washington Post*, *The Guardian* and *The Economist*. He won the OPC's Madeline Dane Ross Award for Best International



MATT CIPOLLONE

Bill Gentile, left, interviews Ioan Grillo at the US-Mexico border outside the Mexican city of Nogales. Grillo is a regular freelance contributor to *The New York Times* and the central figure in the *FREELANCERS* pilot. Associate producer Matt Cipollone, shot and edited the pilot.

Reporting on the Human Condition in 2014.

The screening will begin at 6:30 p.m. at Club Quarters. Click on the gold button to see a "sizzle reel" on the OPC website and to RSVP. ❖

Click here to RSVP for the screening and panel.

Sense of 'Urgency' Marks 25th Anniversary of the Prix Bayeux-Calvados Festival for War Correspondents

BY VIVIENNE WALT

FOR ALL the talk out of Washington about fake news and the press being the enemy of the people, there is always one small corner where foreign correspondents are revered every October: France's medieval jewel of Bayeux. This year, the Prix Bayeux-Calvados, the weeklong festival for war correspondents, felt more urgent than ever in its 25th edition, a haven of people discussing the best frontline reporting of the past year, and showering praise on journalists working in the world's toughest hotspots.

The jury of 47 journalists included OPC members Mort Rosenblum and myself, as well as 2013 John Faber Award winner Jerome Delay, who all spent three days in the northwest corner of Normandy viewing a stunning selection of photographs, and magazine and TV pieces. Iraq and Syria dominated the coverage, as they have for the past few years, but there was also in-depth reporting on Mexico's cartels, the devastating war in Yemen, the Rohingya crisis, and conflicts in Ukraine and Sudan.

This year's jury president was OPC mem-

ber Christiane Amanpour, who kicked off our work with a moment's silence for Jamal Khashoggi. Sadly, Khashoggi's name will be added to next year's plaque in Bayeux's Garden of Remembrance, which bears the names of fallen journalists dating to the 1940s, and which is unveiled every year during the Prix Bayeux week. That's just another feature that astonishes journalists arriving for the first time. "These are the only people in the world I know who care about war correspondents," says Jonathan Randal, now 85, who began his career covering the Algerian War in the 1950s, and has served on the Prix Bayeux jury for 10 years. "I still cannot get over it." A first-timer to Prix Bayeux, Amanpour told a packed auditorium of local residents, who had lined up early to get a seat at the Saturday night awards ceremony on October 13, that the event had amazed her. "Where else in the world would 1,200 people come listen to a discussion about Yemen?" she told a packed auditorium of locals, who lined up early on a Saturday night to get a seat at the awards ceremony on Oct. 13. "New York? No. London? I doubt it."

There's a good reason for Bayeux's passion.



At the end of two days judging, French veteran war photographer Patrick Chauvel surprised this year's jury president Christiane Amanpour with a photo from his archives of her during the Bosnian War with a broken-down vehicle in the snow.

It was the first town liberated from the Nazis in 1944, after Allied Forces landed on D-Day on the beaches a short drive away. Nearly 75 years on, the brutal battle that followed still defines this corner of France. "We felt we had a particular place in history," Bayeux Mayor Patrick Gomont said in explaining why the awards are so important to the town. Because

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OPC Attends Press Freedom Panel at UN

BY CHAD BOUCHARD

THE NUMBER of journalists imprisoned around the world has reached record heights. At the end of 2017, the number of jailed journalists hit 262, the highest number ever recorded by the Committee to Protect Journalists.

On Sept. 28, the CPJ hosted a panel at the United Nations to highlight global press freedom challenges. Human rights lawyer Amal Clooney called on Myanmar civilian leader Aung San Suu Kyi to pardon two Reuters journalists, Wa Lone and Kyaw Soe Oo, who were convicted on Sept. 3 under the colonial-era Official Secrets Act and sentenced to seven years in prison. Clooney is part of the legal team representing them.

The panel, titled “Press Behind Bars: Undermining Justice and Democracy” also featured press freedom concerns in Bangladesh, Egypt, and Kyrgyzstan, where journalists are imprisoned for their work and denied due process.

“The jailing of journalists is a brutal form of censorship and is having a profound impact on the flow of information around the world. The time has come to speak out and to name names,” the CPJ’s Joel Simon said.

The two Reuters reporters had been working on an investigation into the killing of 10 Rohingya Muslim men and boys by security forces and local Buddhists in western Myanmar’s Rakhine state.

Stephen J. Adler, president and editor-in-chief of Reuters, said in a statement that the prosecutors fabricated an implausible story about the journalists’ arrest, claiming they had been carrying top-secret documents.

“So police planted government documents on the journalists while



Left to right: OPC Governor Brian Byrd, Executive Director Patricia Kranz, Press Freedom Committee Chairman Bill Collins and past President Allan Dodds Frank.

other officers were lying in wait to arrest them,” he added. “The journalists were then prosecuted in a show trial in which a conviction was guaranteed.” He called for Suu Kyi to remember her roots as a political prisoner and pardon the journalists, adding that “history will judge her on her response.”

The OPC was well represented at the event, with executive director Patricia Kranz, past President Allan Dodds Frank, OPC Governor Brian Byrd, and former Governor Bill Collins all in attendance.

Frank asked the panel what press freedom advocates such as the OPC could do to pressure the current U.S. administration to call for Myanmar to release the Reuters journalists.

Clooney said all branches of the U.S. government have been supportive, including the White House, Congress and the State Department, with the Treasury Department and Department of Defense imposing sanctions.

“But of course all countries in the world could do more,” she added. “Remember, Myanmar was a success story a few years ago, and the idea is that releasing these journalists would actually set them back on the right track towards a society that respects the rule of law, a society that’s moving toward becoming a full democracy.” ❖

Beth Knobel’s Book Finds that Watchdog Journalism Is ‘Thriving’

EVENT RECAP

BY CHAD BOUCHARD

DESPITE MORE than two decades of turbulent times in the news business, investigative journalism is thriving. That’s a key conclusion outlined in a new book from OPC member Beth Knobel, who is an associate professor at Fordham University and a former CBS News producer. On Oct. 17, Knobel moderated a discussion at the Book Culture bookstore near Columbia University to discuss the state of watchdog reporting, and celebrate the launch of her book, *The Watchdog Still Barks: How Accountability Reporting Evolved for the Digital Era*.

Knobel studied the front pages of nine newspapers of varying sizes across the U.S., to paint a broad portrait of how public service journalism has changed since 1991 as the advent of the Internet transformed the industry.

“This book points to growth in accountability reporting, and that newspapers are able to dig deeper into what’s happening than ever before,” Knobel said. “Even though there have been huge job cuts at these papers.”

OPC member Kim Murphy, who formerly worked as national editor and assistant managing editor for national and foreign news at the *Los Angeles Times*, said she saw the *Times* navigate an identity crisis as the paper struggled to adapt to the digital realm. She said the paper went through a period of “some of the most inane journalism” that focused on click-bait stories and trending topics, but eventually found that investigative reporting connects most with readers.

“What we realized was that really good work, and especially really good accountability journalism, sells. And it was only a matter of time before we reinvigorated the investigative team and hired a new assistant managing editor for investigations. It’s been a process of realizing that’s what readers want.”

Murphy now works as deputy national editor for enterprise at *The New York Times*.

Knobel said she found that that smaller investigative staffs are actually doing more muckraking than larger staffs in the past. “In a way, what I’m seeing doesn’t really make intuitive sense.”

Steven Waldman, president and co-


founder of Report for America, said that while investigative reporting desks may be thriving, a key source of local insight has still been lost.

“With newspapers’ and TV stations’ shrinking resources, they do put a descent chunk of that toward the investigative team. But I hear over and over stories of how they used to have three people covering education, and now they have one person covering education who is also the health reporter. Beat reporting may be what’re really getting lost.”

Report for America is national service program that places journalists into local newsrooms.

Waldman said the news business must get used to the idea that it needs allies in the non-profit sector to play a bigger role, including groups like Report for America and Pro Publica, but also local donors and non-profits to bolster beat reporting.

Report for America has placed 13 reporters in newsrooms across the country so far, and plans to expand to 28 next year, with a goal of 1000 reporters over the next five years. He said though that number may seem ambitious, he thinks it is attainable and would still only fulfill a tiny fraction of the need. ❖



A Bangladeshi policeman covers the mouth of prominent photographer Shahidul Alam during an appearance at a court in Dhaka on Aug. 6.

SUVRA KANTI DAS

OPC Award Winner Speaks Out About Crackdown in Bangladesh

On Aug. 1, a speeding bus struck and killed two students in Dhaka. That incident triggered widespread outrage, spurring tens of thousands of students to pour into the streets in protest, bringing city traffic to a standstill. Demonstrators stopped vehicles and demanded to see drivers' licenses, a move meant to point out the weakness of license enforcement that can lead to such accidents. The students kept emergency lanes that are normally clogged with traffic open. BBC and other media have reported that more than 4,000 pedestrians were killed in traffic accidents last year. Shajahan Khan, the country's minister of shipping who has ties to powerful transportation unions, fanned the flames when he questioned why students had not protested a recent crash where 33 people were killed in an Indian bus crash the day before. Many see the crackdown as a show of force ahead of elections, which are currently slated for December.

The following is a statement from Atish Saha, a Bangladeshi photojournalist and performer based in New York who won the OPC's 2014 Madeline Dane Ross Award along with Jason Motlagh for coverage of the Rana Plaza building collapse. Saha has been closely watching developments in Dhaka.

BY ATISH SAHA

The ruling party turned these protests into a showdown, and used power politics as a demonstration of their might as the election comes near. The protests quickly turned bloody, with stick and machete attacks against students, sexual assault against female journalists, as well as shutting down the phone networks and reducing internet speed to suppress communication. The scariest demonstration of power was against people recording the government's violence; many renowned journalists were violently beaten. Many of my friends' cameras were taken either by police or by student goons working for the government, a group known as the Bangladesh Chhatra League.

Three groups attacked the students: police, Chhatra League goons wearing helmets, and a mob of others hired as muscle. These groups attacked student protesters only 10 minutes from my home in Dhaka. The streets were shrouded in tear gas and fear.

Intellectuals in Dhaka were nearly silent as Shahidul Alam, acclaimed photographer and activist, was arrested and tortured in police custody for talking to journalists about the protests. The sense of fear in Dhaka is palpable. Many of my friends are asking me not to communicate with them because of the climate of fear the government has created.

We have heard reports that Bangladeshi police raided residential areas and universities, searching students' cell phones to check for connections to the protests.

22 students were taken into police custody. A prominent actor was also detained. Alam is still in custody despite support from organizations around the world. His requests to be released on bail have been denied again and again. He has

been in prison for nearly 80 days since he was arrested on Aug. 5, and his legal rights have been stripped away. When he first appeared in public after his arrest, he shouted to onlookers before police covered his mouth to stop him from speaking and shoved him into a microbus. "I have been beaten, and [police] washed my bloody clothes and made me wear them again," he cried out.

Now, imagine conditions for the 22 students, who are not known and have no international support like Alam.

Local transport systems have refused to allow kids to board busses. Teachers have forced children to make political statements against their will, as instructed by the ruling political parties.

Dhaka is a mess.

People want to live peacefully, but the ruling parties are silencing the people and working to make sure people don't stand up for their rights. On Oct. 10, a new and barbaric law governing on-line speech, the Digital Security Act, was enacted. It increases penalties for violators and broadens the government's power to censor online information that "harms the unity of the country or any part of it, economic activities, security, defense, religious values or public order or spreads communal hostility and hatred."

Police arrested a university professor Maidul Islam in September for speaking out on social media. He has been in custody since September on charges that he made "defamatory" remarks against the prime minister.

I am calling for the immediate release of Shahidul Alam and the others who have been arrested under this savage law. Voices must not be silenced. Dhaka does not want dictatorship.

We will continue to write and speak out against this crackdown. ❖

'Prix Bayeux-Calvados' Continued From Page 3

of that, Gomont sees one of the main functions of Prix Bayeux as exposing teenagers to the horrors of war — especially since locals who witnessed the D-Day battle in 1944 are fast dying out. So one category is chosen not by professional journalists, but by middle-school children, who review the work and vote. This year, the schools chose a 15-year-old student who herself who had fled Boko Haram in Nigerian, to present the prize; it went to France 2 Television for its report on child ISIS recruits. And a separate prize is chosen by Bayeux's adult residents, who voted this year for Paula Bronstein's work on the Rohingya crisis.

For the Mayor, involving the public — and especially the children — is

crucial to making the Prix Bayeux an event that goes far beyond journalism. "What is important is to create citizens that are actors of tomorrow, with a global consciousness," he said. For that reason, too, he is considering making permanent an extraordinary exhibition on the history of war reporting, which launched during this year's Prix Bayeux and was curated by French journalist Adrien Jaulmes.

There were a few well-known names among the winners. CNN's Nima Elbagir won the TV news award for her story on migrant slave auctions in Libya. But since entries remain anonymous until after the judging, there were some intensely heart-warming surprises, too. The prize for the young photographer of the year (those under 28) turned out to be 22-year-old Bangladeshi freelancer Mushfiqul Alam, whose wrenching black-and-white images of the Rohingya crisis brought a stunned silence inside the jury room. ❖

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Robert Ahern

Director of Archive
Photography
Getty Images
New York
Active Resident

Bill Gentile

Journalist in Residence
American University
Washington, DC
Active Non-Resident

Timothy McHugh

Director of Media Relations
Friends Committee
on National Legislation
Washington, DC
Associate Non-Resident

PEOPLE

By Farwa Zaidi

OPC SCHOLARS

Elizabeth Miles, the Flora Lewis Fellowship winner in 2017, has a year-long editorial fellowship with *Foreign Policy* in Washington DC. She had an OPC Foundation fellowship with the Reuters bureau in Brussels. She later went to Bogota on a research fellowship, working for the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights on transitional justice issues, before freelancing full time there.

Jad Sleiman, the David R. Schweisberg Memorial Scholarship winner in 2013, has landed a full-time job with the NPR show “The Pulse,” where he has been working as a freelance producer. The multimedia journalist covered conflict as combat correspondent for the US Marine Corps, with video work around the world, including Iraq, Afghanistan, Syria and more than a dozen other countries.

2016 Fritz Beebe Fellowship winner **Dake Kang** has been covering the effects of China’s crackdown on Uighurs from Xinjiang Province for the Associated Press. He traveled with colleague Yanan Wang to report on Uighur children who are separated from their parents and stripped of their identities amid a massive campaign to subdue a restive region that has forced one million Muslims into indoctrination camps. Kang and Wang have filed several longform stories covering the lives and challenges of displaced Uighur children. *Empty places at the table: Uighur children missing in China* covers life in overrun orphanages where Chinese authorities are placing the children, and *China Treats Uighur Kids as “Orphans” After Parents Are Seized*, explores the effects of separation and an education system that bans any use of the Uighur language.

WINNERS

OPC member and former Governor **Abigail Pesta** will receive a Front Page Award from The Newswomen’s Club of New York during a ceremony on Nov. 8. The organization announced that Pesta will receive the Best Magazine Feature for her story “The Convert” in *Texas Monthly*. The story profiled a young woman who escaped jihad in Syria and



MICHAEL DAVIES



Sleiman

from Syria,” including **Evgeny Afineevsky**, **Den Tolmor** and **Aaron I. Butler**, received nominations in four categories.

Carol Williams, who has won multiple awards from the OPC, won The Asian American Journalists Association (AAJA) Trivia Bowl along with her teammates from the *Los Angeles Times*. The LA chapter

went on to de-radicalize herself in Texas. The story previously won a Clarion Award for magazine feature writing from The Association of Women in Communications. Former OPC Governor **Anjali Kamat** will also receive a Front Page Award in the magazine category for in-depth reporting along with The Investigative Fund and *The New Republic*, for the piece “Political Corruption and the Art of the Deal.” The group named **Maggie Haberman** of *The New York Times*, as Journalist of the Year, and will honor **Martha Teichner** of CBS Sunday Morning with an award for Lifetime Achievement.

OPC award winners **Arwa Damon** and **Nick Paton Walsh** of CNN won an Emmy for the reporting that also won them The David Kaplan Award from the OPC earlier this year. Walsh and Damon, both senior international correspondents, won in the category of Outstanding Continuing Coverage of a News Story in a Newscast for their reporting in “The Fall of ISIS in Iraq and Syria.” Walsh had rare access to the final moments of the push against ISIS in the city of Mosul. He was also one of the first journalists allowed to enter Raqqa, the ISIS capital, after US airstrikes allowed forces into the city. The FRONTLINE PBS documentary “Mosul” won an Emmy in the category of Outstanding Cinematography, and was nominated for Outstanding Short Documentary. That piece received the OPC’s Edward R. Murrow Award this year. That team included **Raney Aronson-Rath**, **James Jones**, **Olivier Sarbil**, **Dan Edge** and **Andrew Metz**. Winners of this year’s Peter Jennings Award garnered several Emmy nominations. The HBO team that produced “Cries

of the AAJA has been hosting trivia bowls for years. The *Times* team has won the bowl four times now. Williams is a former senior international affairs writer for the publication. Williams has won five awards from The Overseas Press Club on her reporting, including a shared 2014 Bob Considine Award for coverage of Ukraine along with Sergei Loiko. Williams served as *Times* bureau chief in Budapest, Vienna, Moscow, Berlin, and the Caribbean. She has reported from over 80 countries and left the *Times* in 2015.

UPDATES

OPC Secretary **Paula Dwyer** has started a new position at Bloomberg News. Dwyer is joining Bloomberg’s editing hub, a team of senior editors that handles daily, enterprise, and long-form stories for Bloomberg’s terminal, the web, and magazines. Dwyer’s job will also include newsroom mentoring. She was most recently an editor at Bloomberg’s QuickTakes. Dwyer wrote editorials on politics, economics, and finance for Bloomberg View. She was the London Bureau Chief for *Businessweek* and Washington economics editor for *The New York Times*. She is also a co-author of the book *Take on the Street: How to Fight for Your Financial Future*.

Former OPC Governor – and current OPC Foundation Governor – **Tim Ferguson** will step down as editor of Forbes Asia and exit the company at the end of this year as the Asia publication’s staff is consolidated at its business HQ in Singapore. Ferguson has edited at Forbes for 23 years, spending the last 16 at the helm of its overseas title while based in New York.

OPC Governor **John Avlon**, who joined the board this September, published a piece for CNN on Oct. 10 looking at the possible political aftermath of Hurricane Michael as it bore down on the Gulf Coast. In the piece, titled *The High-Risk Politics of Hurricanes*, Avlon examined the possible effect of hurricane response on upcoming elections. According to the article, hurricane relief efforts in the past have had a major impact on elections they preceded. With midterms only four weeks after Hurricane Michael, he said politicians in the South who deny climate change could have their beliefs challenged by voters suffering losses from the storm.

OPC Second Vice President **Christopher Dickey** wrote an article for The Daily Beast in mid-October about the fight against Ebola in a war-torn region of the Democratic Republic of Congo. The city of Beni has been victim to multiple attacks in the past few months. Islamist military groups killed twenty-one people in seven different attacks during August and September. After the attacks subsided, the town was hit with another lethal force – Ebola. Fifteen people were diagnosed with the disease over one week, triggering a city-wide lockdown. This is the tenth outbreak of Ebola in the DRC. Dickey wrote that despite hopes that the virus might eventually be contained, war is a disease that “defies a cure.”

OPC Governor **Vivienne Walt** landed another cover story for *TIME* magazine’s Europe edition. The Oct. 10 edition features Walt’s profile piece “Kyllian Mbappé Is the Future of Soccer,” which delves into the life of the 19-year old French pro footballer who plays for Paris Saint-Germain and the France national team. Walt paints a portrait of a teenager caught in a high-powered adult world, having missed out on the trappings of a normal youth. “I did not have the moments of so-called normal people during adolescence,” he told Walt in the interview, “like going out with friends, enjoying good times.”

OPC member **Kim Hjelmgaard**, a foreign correspondent for *USA Today*, reported extensively on strained

relations between the US and Iran this summer, gaining rare access to the country and filing videos, photos and a total of nearly 14,000 words. Hjelmgaard said this reporting marks the first time a *USA Today* journalist has been to Iran in nearly 15 years. His coverage follows the aftermath of President Trump’s decision in August to re-impose sanctions on Iran and withdraw from the Iran Nuclear Deal. In the multimedia series, titled “Inside Iran,” Hjelmgaard and his team explored how US sanctions affect businesses and people on the ground in Iran. He has been a member of the OPC since 2015.



“The two Dennises”: Dennis Redmont, left and the actor who portrays him, Simão Cayatte.

OPC member **Dennis Redmont**, currently head of communications, media and development at the Council for the US and Italy in Rome, will feature in “3 Mulheres,” a 13-part Portuguese public TV series that premiered on Oct. 26 on the channel RTP1. The docudrama series follows the efforts of three courageous women, poetess Natália Correia, publisher Snu Abecassis, and journalist Vera Lagoa (pseudonym of Maria Armanda Falcão), to fight media censorship imposed by Premier Antonio Salazar’s regime. Actor Simão Cayatte plays Redmont, who was served as Associated Press correspondent in Lisbon from 1965 to 1967, and experienced pressure from police and authorities targeting foreign correspondents who covered opposition to the government and guerrilla activities in Portuguese colonies. The series may eventually be distributed

internationally.

The Getty family has regained control of the photo agency six years after The Carlyle Group acquired it by buying a major stake in the company. The family’s newfound control of Getty ends ten years of private equity control that contributed to the US photo agency’s growing debt. The deal leaves Getty’s value at about \$3 billion, including debt. The company was valued at \$3.3 billion when acquired by the Carlyle group six years ago. The Getty family had kept a minority stake in the company, but now Mark Getty has been named Chairman. Craig Peters has been made the new CEO.



Former OPC Executive Director Sonya Fry, left, met with Bronagh Towler, a manager at the St. Stephen’s Green Hibernian Club in Dublin, this summer.

Newsweek magazine is entangled in a multi-million dollar fraud and money laundering conspiracy, according to an indictment brought against the company that was unsealed on Oct. 10. Two publishers, IBT Media and Christian Media Corporation, were charged with trying to defraud lenders by pretending they were borrowing money for about \$10 million in computing services. IBT Media owned the magazine, while Christian Media Corporation is an online publisher in based in Washington, DC. *Newsweek* announced in September that the magazine has become an independent company.

Ben Sherwood is stepping down from his position as president of the Disney/ABC Television Group. Sherwood has served as Disney’s president and co-chair of the Media Networks division. He was rumored to be considering leaving his post for the last two months, with Fox’s Peter Rice taking over his duties. Sherwood and ABC have been longtime supporters and sponsors of the OPC. Sherwood sponsored the David Kaplan Award for many years, and this spring extended his sponsorship of the award for the next ten years in the name of ABC News. ❖

PRESS FREEDOM UPDATE...

By Farwa Zaidi and Chad Bouchard

On Oct. 22, the **OPC and the Society of Silurians** sent a letter inviting Abdallah Y. Al-Mouallimi, the ambassador of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to the United Nations, to a public meeting to explain the Saudi government's treatment of the press, and the abduction and murder of *Washington Post* columnist **Jamal Khashoggi**. Khashoggi's death has dominated headlines since he was tortured and killed at the Saudi Arabian consulate in Istanbul on Oct. 2. The Saudi government has provided conflicting accounts of what happened. The OPC joined other press freedom advocates in calling for the US Congress to investigate the journalist's death. Several groups have also called for the U.N. to establish an international investigation.

The **Hong Kong** government triggered a press freedom controversy in early October when it refused to renew the work visa of veteran *Financial Times* journalist **Victor Mallet**. The move came after he moderated a discussion in August with pro-independence activist Andy Chan Ho-tin at the Foreign Correspondents Club (FCC). The Alliance of Hong Kong Media created a petition demanding an explanation from Hong Kong authorities.

Press freedom watchers are reporting that 2018 has been an especially dangerous year for journalists worldwide. And those threats have found a new home in democratic countries, a *New York Times* piece by Megan Specia explained on Oct. 11. In America and Western Europe, places where freedom of press has traditionally been considered an integral component of civil societies, journalists have been murdered and anti-press rhetoric has increased. So far in 2018, forty-three journalists around the world have been killed in relation to their work, according to the CPJ. This number far outpaces last year's and does not include seventeen deaths in which motives remain unknown. Reporters Without Borders reports that more journalists were killed in the first nine months of 2018 than in all of 2017. This year, the U.S. has the third-highest number of journalists killed worldwide. The attack on *The Capital Gazette* newsroom in Annapolis, Maryland alone left five journalists

dead. The U.S. fell two places in the RSF's Press Freedom Index, in part because of comments from President Trump painting the press as the "enemy of the people."

French journalist **Vincent Prado** was detained by police and banned by a judge from filming in the Manghystau region of Kazakhstan on Sept. 27. Prado and his interpreter **Danara Ismetova** were arrested in the western city of Aktau. They were interviewing locals who had witnessed deadly protests there in 2011. Prado and Ismetova were held briefly at a nearby police station. Prado was later taken to court, where a judge prohibited him from filming in the region and ordered him to pay a fine of 60,000 Kazakh tenge (about \$166). Prado was reporting for French media outlets *Front Line* and M6. He had his press accreditation with him when he was arrested. He was working on a story about authorities' violent reaction to oil workers' protests in 2011. Law enforcement had opened fire on demonstrators, killing at least a dozen people. Multiple prominent activists were jailed afterward, and many opposition media outlets were banned.

Somali broadcast journalist **Mohamed Abdiwali Tohow** was detained on Sept. 22 over a broadcast report he had made the previous day for the Mogadishu-based Radio Kulmiye. On the morning of the 22nd, Mohamed received a phone call from intelligence personnel, instructing him to appear at a station in the state capital. He was told there that his report alleging that militant group Al-Shabaab is regrouping in parts of the state was "false news." However, he was not charged for any crime. Abdiwali Tohow regularly contributes to various stations, including London-based broadcaster Universal TV. Burhan Dini Farah, station director for Radio Kulmiye, told CPJ that he had been notified that the journalist would be released after an investigation was completed.

Brazilian radio owner and commentator **Sandoval Braga** was shot in the leg on Sept. 21 after masked attackers barged into his studio garage. Braga

said the intruders entered as he was closing his door, forced him to lie on the ground, and one of them shot him in the leg. The shooter then told him "this is so you keep quiet and stop talking garbage on the radio." Braga founded Radio Uniao in 2007, and frequently participates in a daily show hosted by Inaldo Lima. Lima reads the news while Braga provides political commentary. Ricardo Romey, the lead investigator in this case, said the attack was "cold and calculated," meant to spook Braga into silence. He says witnesses saw the attackers drive by the building several times. Radio Uniao has hired armed security guards for their building following the attack.

A court in the northern province of Bac Ninh in Vietnam sentenced journalist **Do Cong Duong** to four years in prison for "disturbing public order" on Sept. 17. Duong was arrested eight months prior on Jan. 24 while filming and photographing state authorities forcibly evicting residents of the Tu Son commune in Bac Ninh. Duong faces a separate charge of "abusing democratic freedoms." The charge carries a maximum seven-year sentence and Duong will face trial for that charge in October. Duong frequently covers land rights and corruption, including on his own TV program, *Tieng Dan TV*. He was warned by Bac Ninh police in September 2017 that his content "distorts the truth" and "contradicts the directions and policies of the Party and the law of the state." At least ten journalists remain behind bars in Vietnam since December 2017.

Saudi Arabia's military coalition fired an airstrike at a **Yemeni radio station** on Sept. 16. The airstrike killed three employees, as well as one civilian near the building. The Al-Maraweah Radio Broadcasting Center located in Al-Maraweah district was targeted because it is controlled by the Ansar Allah movement, commonly known as the Houthis. The Saudi-led coalition has recently been targeting Houthi forces in and around the Red Sea port city of Hodeida. The city is currently under Houthi control and is a vital lifeline for the group, who controls most of

Yemen's north and west, as well as the capital Sanaa. According to the Yemeni Journalists Syndicate co-chair Nabil Alosaidi, the victims killed in the attack were **Omar Ezzi Mohammad, Al Aish Mohammed Youssef, Jamaie Abdullah Musib, and Abeer Heba Ali**, who was a nearby farmer. At least six journalists have been killed in coalition airstrikes by Saudi-led forces since March 2015.

Police raided the home of Italian journalist **Salvo Palazzolo** on Sept. 13, and seized his mobile phone, tablet computer, and three hard drives. The search of his home was conducted by a prosecutor's office in Catania, Sicily. It was carried out as part of an investigation of an alleged leak of information after the journalist published a story in March on the Via D'Amelio bombing of 1992. Anti-mafia magistrate Paolo Borsellino and five police officers were killed during that attack. Palazzolo's report alleged police misconduct during the investigation of the bombing. According to Palazzolo, he and his lawyer have filed a complaint about the search and are appealing for his equipment to be returned to him. Several Italian journalists are currently under police protection after reporting on mafia-like criminal groups.

Democratic Republic of Congo journalist **Tharcisse Zongia** was jailed on Sept. 6 for criminal defamation. Zongia is editor-in-chief of the satirical weekly *Grognon*. Zongia was previously arrested almost two years ago, in November 2016. He had published an article in his weekly in 2015, accusing Barthélemy Okito, secretary general of the sports ministry, of embezzlement. Zongia remained free pending his appeal, which was filed in January 2017. He was notified on Sept. 4 that his appeal was set for two days later. He was arrested as soon as he arrived in court and transferred to Kinshasa's Central Prison the next day. CPJ's Africa Program Coordinator, Angela Quintal said it is "outrageous that 22 months after Zongia's conviction for defamation, he was arrested even though his appeal before a higher court is still pending."

MURDERS

Mexican reporter **Mario Leonel Gomez Sanchez** was shot and killed outside his home on Sept. 21. Gomez was a reporter for the local newspaper *El Heraldo de Chiapas*. He was gunned down by two unidentified assailants riding a motorcycle. The attack was captured on video, where you can see the gunmen approaching Gomez and briefly stopping several meters from him. One of the men then fires shots at him with a handgun, after which they flee the scene. Gomez died shortly afterward at a hospital. On Sept. 22, the state attorney general's office released a statement saying that Gomez's work as a journalist would be the principal line of investigation. Gomez had been a correspondent for *El Heraldo de Chiapas* for eight years. He covered general news, including crime and violence in the region. He had also written about political developments following the Mexican general elections. He had previously received threats in connection to his work.

Somali reporter and photographer **Abdirisak Said Osman** was killed in the city of Galkayo on Sept. 19. He was attacked the day before and succumbed to his injuries a day later. Abdirisak was on his way home from work when a group of unknown attackers approached around 11:00 p.m. He was stabbed with knives and beaten with sticks, and died from internal bleeding. Abdirisak was a reporter for the privately-owned radio station Codka Nabada. The director of the station said Abdirisak had recently reported a series of stories on security in Galkayo and interviewed locals about their fear of criminal gangs and terrorists. Initial investigations into Abdirisak's murder did consider his work as a factor, but nothing had been confirmed. Investigations are still ongoing. Somalia, according to CPJ research, has some of the highest levels of impunity for murders of journalists in the world. ❖

police violence waited for the official story to come out, and then his video exposed lies in the police version of events. If he'd posted it first, police might have adjusted their account to sidestep the allegations, she said.

Witness and the Guardian Project co-created a tool called ProofMode, which adds metadata to photos and video to help prevent activists and journalists from having their work discredited as fakes.

Erica Anderson, lead for U.S. partnerships with News Lab at Google, is working with journalists and organizations like Witness to teach digital strategies including how to use metadata and other information to verify content.

"I'm a former journalist. This is really about applying [journalists'] questions. 'Is this real? Can I trust it?' – and using the digital footprint to understand" the sources, she said.

She noted that journalists have used tools like Google Street View for image forensics, such as in an investigation on the website Bellingcat that verified the location of a photo of the missile launcher in Russia that took down Malaysian Airlines Flight 17.

The panelists said that journalists can use a range of information to verify media, like historical weather data, terrain details and hits on Google Reverse Image Search.

Sara Obeidat, a co-producer at Rain Media working on films for FRONTLINE, said she first got into documentary filmmaking because she came to distrust printed news as a child growing up in Jordan. Video offers the opportunity to "show, not tell" details about a story that are resonant and true, she said.

She recounted an example, where she was filming a story about Syrian refugees in Jordan, and was able to capture disruption in the community as aid workers delivered water in trucks to only particular households, which fueled tensions.

"I just remember telling my colleague 'just get your phone out, let's start filming this, it can translate what we were trying to report on without having to editorialize.'"

"It's basically just thinking about how to have as much unfold in front of you as possible, and not to get ahead of yourself and tell people what they're about to see, but just letting them see it. Usually that means looking for characters who are doing something, and looking for events that can explain that, and listening really well." ❖

NEW BOOKS

By Farwa Zaidi

UPCOMING EVENTS

Taiwan's
Future Amid a
'New Cold War' Between
the US and China

Club Quarters
Reception 6:00 p.m.
Program 6:30 p.m.

Oct. 30

Documentary
Screening:
'FREELANCERS'
with Bill Gentile

Club Quarters
6:30 p.m.

Nov. 14

MIDDLE EAST

MORE THAN 2.7 million Americans have fought in Iraq and Afghanistan since September 11, 2001. Journalist and two-time OPC Award winner C.J. Chivers reported on both wars from their beginnings. His new book, *The Fighters*, [Simon and Schuster, 2018] is an in-depth look at the physical and emotional realities of soldiers on the ground.

Chivers walks readers through the lives of six combatants: a fighter pilot, a corpsman, a scout helicopter pilot, a "grunt," an infantry officer, and a Special Forces sergeant. Chivers captures a range of emotional highs and lows: from courage and duty to the wounds they suffered physically and mentally. The fighters faced confusion and frustration as new enemies arose and counterinsurgencies grew – challenges that American forces were not prepared for.

Chivers examines the wars from the ground level instead of from a foreign policy point of view, offering readers an important and often ignored perspective. According to him, the war in Afghanistan started off sensibly and out of necessity, but ballooned over the years while the purpose became lost. Some of the soldiers interviewed by Chivers admitted that they could no longer see why they were serving. Specialist Robert Soto said he joined the Army in his teens to "protect America." He was unsure how the Korengal Outpost in northeastern Afghanistan served that end.

The Fighters is rife with drama, heroism and heartbreak. The hospital corpsmen Chivers interviewed, Joe Dan Worley and Dustin Kirby, were cousins from Georgia. While their families believed their positions would keep them safe, Worley ended up losing his left leg above the knee, and Kirby was shot in the face by an enemy. Chivers interviewed him a few years after the incident, and found him unemployed, divorced, and disfigured.

The Fighters has received positive reviews from critics. *The Wall Street Journal* called Chivers "an artist among war correspondents" who "fashions a vast mosaic of bravery and miscalculation from the lives of American combatants in Iraq and Afghanistan."

Chivers is a war correspondent for *The New York Times*. He won the OPC's 2011 Hal Boyle Award for his reporting in Libya and Afghanistan, and the 2014 Best Investigative Reporting Award for "Secret Casualties," which covered the U.S. military's coverup of contamination from chemical munitions. His magazine story "The

Fighter" won the 2017 Pulitzer Prize in Feature Writing. In 2009 he was part of a team that won a Pulitzer Prize for International Reporting for coverage from Pakistan and Afghanistan. Chivers also served in the United States marine corps as an infantry officer during the Persian Gulf War. ❖

SOUTHEAST ASIA

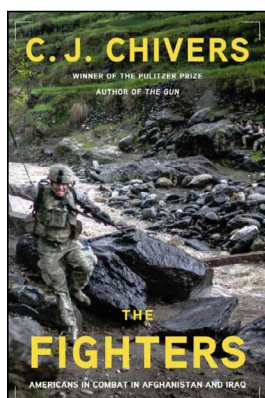
SOUTHEAST ASIA'S economy is growing steadily at an average of at least 5 percent per year, according to the Association of Southeast Asian Nations. Thanks to an expanding consumer market, a young and robust workforce, and increasing regional cooperation, that trend will likely continue. However, as the economy booms, so does the region's underground crime. Black markets of drugs, human trafficking, and animal trafficking have increased as rapidly as the economy. Patrick Winn's new book, *Hello Shadowlands: Inside the Meth Fiefdoms, Rebel Hideouts and Bomb-Scarred Party Towns of Southeast Asia* [Icon Books, 2018] is a deep dive into the world of underground organized crime in Southeast Asia.

Winn has been a correspondent in Asia for a decade. He argues in his book that an authoritarian regime does not, as people may think, lead to less crime and squeaky-clean streets. He believes that strongarm rule leads to more underground criminal networks. Winn profiles drug fiefdoms in Myanmar that have helped fuel the world's largest methamphetamine trade, women in the Philippines who are becoming rich by selling illegal contraceptives, and entertainers being exported from North Korea to work in restaurants across Southeast Asia.

Winn has done extensive research on the region's politics and police. Winn writes that police chiefs in authoritarian governments operate with complete impunity, and use their power to protect criminals who pay them off. Essentially, Winn writes, police in these regions are selling impunity to drug lords and human traffickers.

Winn also researched vast amounts of drugs flowing among between Southeastern countries. He estimates that seizures of meth tablets have gone up by 80,000 percent in the last ten years in Bangladesh. Winn says the world's largest meth trade is currently coming out of Myanmar, near the country's border with China. Drug labs there are selling 2 to 6 billion methamphetamine tablets per year.

Shadowlands was well received by critics, saying that Winn does a commendable job showing corruption in Southeast Asia without sensationalizing or moralizing the region. Winn is an award-winning American journalist who covers crime in Southeast Asia. His work has appeared on NBC News, *The Atlantic* and BBC, among others. ❖





Amy Mackinnon

Meet the OPC Members: Q&A With Amy Mackinnon

BY CHAD BOUCHARD

AMY MACKINNON is a reporter for *Foreign Policy* magazine, and an award-winning multimedia journalist from Scotland. In recent years, she has reported on eastern Europe. She received a 2018 Alfred I. duPont-Columbia award for her reporting from Russia for the Reveal episode “Russia’s New Scapegoats.” Her work has been published and broadcast by Coda Story, BBC Radio Scotland, Slate, CNN, *Foreign Policy*, the *Sunday Herald*, the *Sunday Mail* and the *Daily Record*. Mackinnon speaks Russian and holds an MA in Russian and East European Studies from the University of Glasgow. She is currently based in New York while pursuing an MA at the CUNY Graduate School of Journalism with a focus on documentary filmmaking.

Hometown: Dingwall, Scotland.

Education: University of Glasgow, Corvinus University in Budapest, CUNY Graduate School of Journalism.

Languages you speak: Native English speaker, decent but flawed Russian, some Czech and French.

First job in journalism: Intern at the International Network of Street Newspapers in Glasgow, Scotland.

Countries reported from: the U.K., Poland, Hungary, Czech Republic, Russia, Georgia, Belarus, the U.S.A.

When and why did you join the OPC?

Feel a bit bad for saying this, but for the ID card! The more official-looking documents you have the better when reporting in the former Soviet Union.

What sparked your interest in reporting on Russia?

A love of great stories, I think. In high school we studied the Russian revolution and the Cold War and I was just riveted, so I decided to study Russian at university. Hard to imagine now but it was a counter-intuitive choice in 2007. Russian studies were in decline, departments were being closed everywhere and Arabic and Chinese were the languages of the day if you were interested in global affairs.

Major challenge as a journalist:

Accepting uncertainty, which just seems to be part of the job. I get very anxious in the early stages of a story, as to whether it will pan out. But when it does it makes it all worth it.

Best journalism advice received:

An old one but a good one, “get the name and breed of the dog.”

Worst experience as a journalist:

The nail biting wait for sources and editors to respond to my messages. That and 4 a.m. trips to Tbilisi airport.

When traveling, you like to... I walk as much as I can. It’s a great way to get a sense of a new city.

Hardest story: Reporting on homophobes

in St Petersburg Russia for a radio documentary co-produced with Reveal and Coda Story. I’d flip back and forth between meeting with homophobic politicians and vigilantes who would just say the most hateful and unfounded things about LGBT+ people – one guy even broke out into a sweat he became so worked up talking about it. Then later on the same day I’d meet with local activists, members of the LGBT community who of course were the antithesis of all the hateful things I’d heard just hours before.

Journalism heroes: Marie Colvin, Khadija Ismayilova, Elena Milashina, Maria Ressa. I love Ellen Barry’s writing. Big admirer of Bellingcat – their ability to fact-check a national government and its propaganda using just open-source data is really incredible.

Dream job: As a kid I always loved the idea of becoming a journalist but it seemed very exotic and inaccessible, like aspiring to become a ballerina or an astronaut. Few people end up working in the jobs they dreamt of as kids so I feel insanely fortunate to be where I am now.

Place you’re most eager to visit: Uzbekistan.

Most common mistake you’ve seen: Haste.

Favorite quote: “To write adverbs is human, to write he said or she said is divine,” from Stephen King’s *On Writing*.

Place you most want to return to: Georgia’s breakaway region of Abkhazia. It’s the most fascinating, beautiful, sad and complicated place I’ve ever been. On the drive into the main city, Sukhumi, you have these dramatic alpine mountains to your right, sapphire blue ocean on the left, and all around you is lush green tropics dotted with abandoned, shot-up houses. I’m not one for keeping a diary but I did on that trip as I was just such a sensory overload.

Twitter handle: @ak_mack ❖

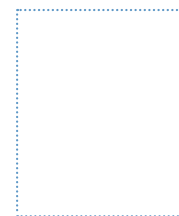
Want to add to the OPC’s collection of Q&As with members? Please contact patricia@opcofamerica.org.



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