

PARK CENTER FOR INDEPENDENT MEDIA

presents

THE SIXTH ANNUAL

IZZY AWARD

honoring

John Carlos Frey & Nick Turse

and

I. F. STONE HALL of FAME

inducting

Glenn Greenwald & Jeremy Scahill

April 28, 2014

Park Hall Auditorium, Ithaca College



The **Izzy Award** recognizes outstanding achievement in independent media. The **I. F. Stone Hall of Fame** has been established to honor those who have won the Izzy and keep producing content that would qualify them to win it again. This occasional honor is reserved for our era's greatest, most productive journalists . . . the new Izzy Stones.

Both are named for I. F. "Izzy" Stone, the legendary 20th century journalist who for decades exposed government deceit and assaults on civil rights and liberties, notably through *I. F. Stone's Weekly* (1953-71).

Izzy Award Winners

John Carlos Frey is a reporting fellow with The Investigative Fund at The Nation Institute. In articles and in televised reports he has tirelessly probed the increasingly militarized U.S.-Mexico border. He has illuminated the rise in fatal shootings by U.S. Border Patrol agents, such as cross-border shootings into Mexico that killed innocent civilians, sometimes right in front of their families. He also brought to light heartbreaking stories of deported people who died in Mexico's desert while trying to return to their family members (often U.S. citizens). Frey's 2013 reports on excessive force by Border Patrol agents had impact — sparking Congressional inquiry, criminal probes, federal investigations and changes in the Border Patrol's training and use-of-force protocols.

“Frey ventured where few U.S. journalists had been willing or able to go — on both sides of the border under dangerous circumstances — to investigate crimes that many people knew about but remained beyond public awareness,” said judge Linda Jue. “And his well-documented reporting brought an extraordinary response.”

Nick Turse has given human form and voice to civilian victims of U.S. wars from Vietnam to Afghanistan. His best-selling 2013 book, *Kill Anything That Moves: The Real American War in Vietnam*, used classified Pentagon documents and fresh first-person interviews to reveal that violence against Vietnamese noncombatants was “pervasive and systematic — the predictable result of official orders.” A journalist, historian, and Nation Institute fellow, Turse monitors current U.S. military interventionism in articles for TomDispatch.com (where he is managing editor) and *The Nation*, for which he coauthored the special report “America's Afghan Victims.”

Said Izzy judge Robert McChesney, “Nick Turse combines the fastidiousness of a serious historian and a journalist's intuition for the big story, along with an uncompromising commitment to the truth, wherever it leads.”

I. F. Stone Hall of Fame

Glenn Greenwald and *Democracy Now!* host/executive producer Amy Goodman received the first Izzy Award honoring their work in 2008. Self-publishing in the I. F. Stone tradition, Greenwald blogged daily in defense of constitutional rights, reported on a false 9/11 claim by then-U.S. Attorney General Michael Mukasey that led to a retraction, and influenced debate on Capitol Hill.

Tonight he breaks ground again as an original inductee in the new I. F. Stone Hall of Fame, because the caliber of his work would qualify him to win an Izzy Award again and again. Through exposés and incisive analysis, the former constitutional lawyer has revealed the outlines of a vast surveillance state, as well as its political and media protectors. With Laura Poitras and other collaborators, and utilizing documents provided last spring by NSA whistleblower Edward Snowden, Greenwald has broken story after story across the globe exposing widespread spying abuses.

“Glenn Greenwald may be the closest thing we have today to a living, breathing I. F. Stone,” said PCIM director Jeff Cohen.

Jeremy Scahill won the second Izzy Award for his relentless 2009 exposure of abuses by Blackwater and military contractors.

He has recently worked as national security reporter for both *Democracy Now!* and *The Nation*. Scahill’s 2013 book *Dirty Wars: The World Is a Battlefield* and the Oscar-nominated documentary based on it (directed by Richard Rowley), exposed the brutalities, illegalities, and strategic flaws in the nearly 13-year-long global “war on terror.”

“Scahill’s unique firsthand reporting is the work of a journalist motivated by such a strong sense of justice that he is repeatedly willing to place himself in dangerous war conditions to get at the truth,” commented Izzy judge Linda Jue.

Greenwald, Scahill, and filmmaker/journalist Laura Poitras are the founding editors of *The Intercept*, a digital magazine that is part of the recently launched First Look Media.

I. F. “Izzy” Stone

“All governments lie,” said Izzy Stone, the ultimate un-embedded reporter. He launched his first independent publication at age 14 and went on to become a reporter, editor, columnist, and powerful journalistic advocate for FDR’s New Deal at the then-liberal *New York Post*. As D.C. editor of *The Nation*, he exposed U.S. corporations doing business with Hitler’s Germany. He was one of the first journalists to sound the alarm about the Nazi holocaust and battled the National Press Club over its exclusion of African Americans.

Founded in 1953, *I. F. Stone’s Weekly* stood bravely against racial discrimination, Senator Joe McCarthy’s witch-hunting, and the lies propelling the Vietnam War.

Izzy Stone has inspired generations of journalists and social-justice activists. “In this age of corporation men, I am an independent capitalist, the owner of my own enterprise . . . beholden to no one but my good readers,” Stone wrote in 1963. A true independent, he wrote books that passionately supported the birth of Israel, but strongly criticized its mistreatment of Palestinians. He advocated peace and negotiations with Soviet Russia, while denouncing its rulers. He despised racists, but defended their civil liberties—as he defended everyone’s.

His books include *Underground to Palestine*, *The Hidden History of the Korean War*, and *Killings at Kent State*. His collected writings appear in *The Best of I. F. Stone*. Read more at the official website supervised by Izzy’s son Jeremy, www.IFStone.org.

The **Park Center for Independent Media**, launched in 2008, studies news media outlets that create and distribute content outside traditional corporate systems, and works to help strengthen independent journalism. Visit us online at ithaca.edu/indy and “friend” us on Facebook.

We deeply appreciate the generous support of the Park Foundation and of Jeremy Stone.

The inaugural Izzy Award was presented to GLENN GREENWALD and AMY GOODMAN; the second honoree was JEREMY SCAHILL; the third award was shared by ROBERT SCHEER and *CITY LIMITS*; the fourth was shared by SHARIF ABDEL-KOUDDOUS and the CENTER FOR MEDIA AND DEMOCRACY; and last year’s awardee was *MOTHER JONES*.

Izzy Award JUDGES are JEFF COHEN, PCIM director; LINDA JUE, director and executive editor of the G. W. Williams Center for Independent Journalism; and ROBERT W. MCCHESENEY, University of Illinois professor and author.



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