

# The AIBs 2015

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# The AIBs 2015

## AWARDS

### TELEVISION

Journalism  
Domestic current affairs documentary  
International current affairs documentary  
Domestic investigative documentary  
International investigative documentary  
Children's factual  
Science programme  
Short news report  
Short feature  
Specialist programme

### ONLINE FACTUAL

### RADIO

Journalism  
Current affairs documentary  
Investigative documentary  
Creative feature

### ON-AIR TALENT

Television personality  
Radio personality

### FOUNDERS AWARD

### LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD



## THE AIBs 2015 SUPPORTED BY



## WELCOME

**E**leven years of *The AIBs*. You'd think with so many years of organising this international media festival of factual content the whole process would by now be easy. Yes, it is in many ways but the main proposition remains as complex and complicated as ever: to choose the winners. One outright winner only in each of the 17 categories. "Ay, there's the rub", as Shakespeare's Hamlet would say.

It starts with the shortlisting. How do you narrow an extensive field of strong entries down to the shortlist? And how do you make that final choice from the shortlist – when more than one production could be a deserving winner? This is the hard decision our judges have to make. They are drawn from all over the world and bring to the *AIBs* their particular experience in different aspects of broadcasting. Whoever emerges as 'the winner' is bound to be a worthy recipient of the AIB award but it is fair to say that all of those who have made the shortlist are winners in the sense that the content they have produced places them at the top of their profession.

Well, let's look at the content. Last year some of the topics covered were riots, refugees, revolutions, rape, exploitation of children, human trafficking, corruption, racism, medical malpractice, environmental damage. So has the world in 2015 become a better, more humane place? Looking at this year's crop of investigative documentaries and current affairs reporting, the answer is 'no'. There are still death squads, death boats, terrorists, wars, refugees, deadly diseases, paedophiles, drugs and much more.

Yes, the world is still a pretty unpleasant place, for many of its inhabitants, some or most of the time. But, and this is a *big* but, there are still men and women out there who report back on what's going on, who uncover and investigate. Investigating and reporting from areas that are not safe is not for the faint-hearted. Every year, INSI's report 'Killing the Messenger' illustrates this all too clearly when it sets out starkly how many journalists are killed the world over for simply doing their job.

It's the journalists who bring the big stories to us, and who have the power to make small stories into big issues if that's what is required. They show us the human cost of man-made or natural disasters. They give us the facts, the detail, they highlight what needs stopping or changing. So even though the stories that journalists bring onto our screen may be disturbing, the fact that they get reported at all is of immense importance. We in turn can look or look away, can disengage or get involved and act. How we deal with these stories – which essentially concern us all on this planet Earth – that is something we have to square with our own conscience.

Some of the *AIBs'* 17 categories make for lighter viewing and allow humanity to shine. Just look at the strongest entries in 'Science', in 'Specialist Programme' or 'Children's Factual' – they place the spotlight on man's amazing and uplifting achievements in a variety of fields. In terms of production and execution, the boundaries of creativity and innovation are pushed ever further. There is no one magic formula on how to draw the viewer in and 'hook' him so that he can't stop watching. As a viewer, you instinctively know when it's working.

Altogether, the programmes entered in this year's awards take us to the edge of our seats and imagination, entertain, educate and inspire us. Inspirational – each year since *The AIBs* were established in 2005 we hear this adjective many times in the course of – and after – the AIB awards gala evening. When the film clips are shown of the finalists in the various categories there is always a hush in the room.

As a not-for-profit organisation, AIB cannot organise these awards without the support and involvement of the industry. So firstly, my special thanks go to those media professionals who served on the international judging panel and gave their time and expertise so generously this year. I also extend my particular thanks to our sponsors – RT Channel, Eutelsat and Pixel Party – for their support of *The AIBs* in 2015. And I would like to thank BAFTA and our host for the evening, Hala Gorani from CNN International.

This year's *AIBs* have been a great experience – I already look forward to 2016.

A blue ink signature of Simon Spanswick.

Simon Spanswick  
Chief Executive, AIB



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# The AIBs 2015

## JUDGES

**Faisal J Abbas**, Editor-in-Chief, Al Arabiya News (English) | **Mekki Abdullah**, Group President & CEO, Fujairah Media Group | **Kevin Anderson**, Executive Editor, Gannett Lakes Group | **Neeraj Arora**, Executive Vice President, Head International Business, MSM Asia Limited/Sony Entertainment Network | **Anna Averkiou**, International Media Consultant | **Hla Yin Aye**, General Manager, MandalayFM, Forever Group | **Charlotte Cabrero**, Project Executive, Digital Radio Mondiale Consortium | **Linden Clark**, Manager, Radio New Zealand | **Eugen Cojocariu**, Director, Radio Romania International | **Brian Conniff**, President, Middle East Broadcasting Networks | **Nick Daly**, Vice President-UK & Ireland, South Asia, Nordic Region, Eutelsat | **Vincent De Paul**, Vice President News, Content Group, Astro | **Henrik Eklund**, CEO and Founder, Newstag | **Anastasia Ellis**, Managing Editor, Bloomberg Media EMEA | **David FitzGerald**, Founder and Executive Consultant, Globelynx | **Marco Frazier**, SVP of Distribution and Business Development, Western Europe, AMC Networks | **Mihai Gadea**, CEO, Antena 3 | **Lee Gal**, Chief Producer, i24news | **Mohamed Ali Harrath**, CEO, Islam Channel | **Sam Jackson**, Managing Editor, Classic FM | **Simon Kendall**, Head of Business Development, BBC World Service | **John Maguire**, Director of International Development, France Médias Monde | **Henry Mance**, Media Correspondent, Financial Times | **Michael McEwen**, Director General, North American Broadcasters Association | **Lucio Mesquita**, Director, BBC Monitoring | **Marcus Metzner**, Head of Marketing and Communications, arvato Systems | **Izak Minnaar**, Editor, SABC Digital News | **John Momoh**, CEO, Channels TV | **Gaven Morris**, Director, ABC News | **John O'Loan**, CEO, iO Media Group | **Lippe Oosterhof**, CEO, Livestation | **Nigel Parsons**, CEO, TVC News | **Carter Pilcher**, Chief Executive, Shorts International | **Alla Salehian**, CEO, TIMA | **Adil Salih**, Planning Editor, Sky News Arabia | **Sanjay Salil**, Managing Director, MediaGuru | **Carlito Sheikh**, Head of Digital Media Strategy, SABC Radio | **Daisy Sindelar**, Programming Director, Europe, RFE/RL | **Simon Spanswick**, Chief Executive, Association for International Broadcasting | **Sanjeev Srivastava**, CEO, Focus Channels | **Danna Stern**, Head of Programming, yes-DBS Satellite Services | **Sarah Sultoon**, Senior Director of Coverage, EMEA, CNN | **Kevin Sutcliffe**, Head of News Programming EU, Vice News | **Umesh Upadhyay**, President News, Network 18 |

## HOST

Hala Gorani is an anchor and correspondent for CNN International and is based in London.

Hala anchors *The World Right Now*, with *Hala Gorani*, a show that brings viewers into the heart of CNN's International newsgathering operation and immerses them in the latest stories of the day.

In addition to her anchoring duties, Hala often goes into the field to report on major breaking news stories, most recently covering the refugee crisis in Europe and the Middle East. She also covered the 2012 Egyptian Elections and has previously reported extensively from Lebanon, Jordan and Egypt. She was instrumental in CNN's coverage of the Arab Spring.

In 2010 Hala covered the devastating earthquake in Haiti, for which CNN's coverage was recognised with a Golden Nymph award - one of the highest honours in international journalism - at the Monte Carlo Television Festival.

As one of CNN's most experienced international journalists, Hala has reported from every country in the Middle East including Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Israel, Jordan and the Palestinian territories. She was instrumental in CNN International's coverage of the Israel-Hezbollah conflict in 2006, for which CNN won an Edward R. Murrow Award. She was also one of the CNN journalists awarded a News and Documentary Emmy for the network's coverage of the 2011 Egyptian revolution that led to the ousting of the country's then president, Hosni Mubarak.

Hala joined CNN in 1998 from Bloomberg Television in London, where she worked as an anchor. She also worked for French network France 3, covering stories for the French cable network Paris Premiere. She started her career in journalism writing for French daily La Voix du Nord and news agency Agence France Presse.

Born in Seattle and raised in Paris, Hala speaks English, French and Arabic.





# The AIBs 2015

## TELEVISION JOURNALISM

### CNN



#### Highly commended

Al Jazeera English  
Nepal in Ruins

Excellent, long term reporting provided the viewer with every angle of this tragedy, with Subina Shrestha offering very personal insight in extremely challenging circumstances, our judges noted.

Euronews  
Fighting Boko Haram

A complex story that many Western broadcasters struggle with was well told, providing a fascinating insight into one of the most dangerous and ruthless terrorist organisations in the world.

The range of stories in the nominations for this year's TV journalism award was wide and truly international.

The winner is **CNN** for its **Coverage of the Migrant Crisis in the Mediterranean**. Our judges said that it was clear that the editorial team looked for different and untold angles to the migrant crisis when much of the world's focus was on Europe.

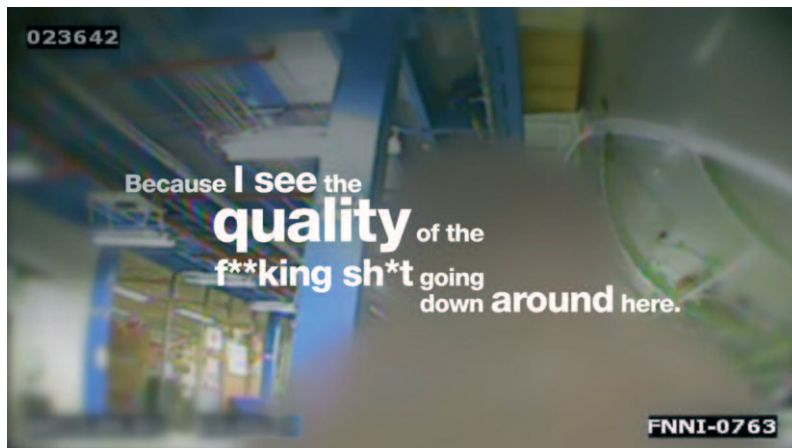
The research is impressive, the characters intriguing and the reporting challenged the viewer to put aside the politics and look at this story through the eyes of those risking everything for the chance of a better life.

Neema Al Baquir was cited by the judges as a distinctive and eloquent reporter.

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## INTERNATIONAL CURRENT AFFAIRS

### Al Jazeera Media Network



#### Highly commended

Mongoose Pictures/Quicksilver Media  
Outbreak: The Truth about Ebola

From its origins in the jungle of Guinea to the attempts to stop the spread of the worst outbreak of Ebola in history, the judges said that this was a well-crafted documentary that provided perspective on the outbreak highlighting government incompetence and the slow reaction of the international community to this dreadful epidemic. A courageous piece of work.

True Vision Productions  
Kids in Camps

After a brutal civil war, South Sudan, the youngest country in the world, is now facing a famine that some say could result in the deaths of over 50,000 children. This documentary went into the camps housing many thousands of children and was, according to the judges, gripping with close-up portraits, told with passion.

A wide range of subjects covering issues of international relevance challenged our judges.

The winner of this strong category was **Al Jazeera Media Network** for **Al Jazeera Investigates – Broken Dreams: The Boeing 787**. This was a disturbing tale of corporate greed as the world's major aircraft manufacturer put profit ahead of safety.

It was a real broadside that provided a clear explanation of the issues with an excellent range of interviewees, with the story going into horrifying detail.

One of our judges said they would definitely think twice about getting on board a Dreamliner in the future after watching this well paced documentary.

# The AIBs 2015

## DOMESTIC CURRENT AFFAIRS

### Channel 4



An outstanding set of documentaries were entered this year, dealing with many complex and challenging subjects.

The winner is **Channel 4** for **My Last Summer**, a programme that gathered together five terminally ill patients to share their experiences of coping with the last months of their lives and the effect on their families and friends.

Our judges described this as a sensitive and empathetic story of courage and bravery, with a frank and honest exploration of fear, courage, love and pain.

This was a unique portrait of five very different people sharing the same emotional journey.

#### Highly commended

Antena 3

**The Thing with Rom-Mania**

A film that had the trick of changing viewers' perceptions and prejudice to the Roma people and their acceptance by Romanian society. The documentary had a powerful dynamic and infectious narrative, with a strong central character.

Verve Productions

**Filming My Father: In Life and Death**

A thoroughly poignant and personal insight that drew the viewer into the drama of a family dealing with the slow decline of the father through motor neurone disease. It felt extraordinarily personal and intimate, commented the judges.

## DOMESTIC INVESTIGATIVE

### VRT



This category searches for outstanding work that has uncovered an issue of national importance for viewers, and that has the power to cause a significant reaction by the authorities.

The winner in 2015 is **VRT** for **The Price of Cheap Food**. This documentary looked at the never ending price war between supermarkets to lure consumers in with the cheapest possible food, asking who pays for this cheap food and whether a Pandora's box has been opened in which food producers – principally farmers – have become the first victims.

Our judges said that this was an excellent and compelling investigation presented in a beautifully structured film that kept the viewer engaged until the end. Graphic footage and emotive interviews made the programme resonate and provided an easy-to-understand insight into the impact of cheap food. Great cinematic appeal added to this production's winning credentials.

#### Highly commended

BBC Northern Ireland

**Spotlight: A Woman Alone with the IRA**

Maíria Cahill was Irish republican "royalty" – then she accused an IRA member of rape. This significant investigation explored how her damaging allegations were mishandled, first by the IRA and then by the justice system in Northern Ireland. Our judges said this represented brave and important story-telling in a well constructed and smartly put together classic documentary.

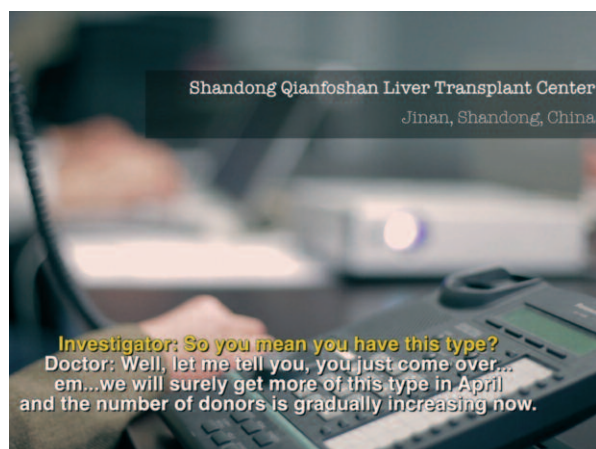
Channel 4

**The Paedophile Hunter**

This observational investigation focusing on the way vigilantes attempt to entrap paedophiles grooming children on social networks was described as a gripping and disturbing documentary which kept the viewer hooked from start to finish. Compellingly shot and narrated, this extremely powerful documentary drew on a range of emotions.

# The AIBs 2015

## INTERNATIONAL INVESTIGATIVE Flying Cloud Productions



The entries for this international investigative award covered topics on every continent and provided disturbing insight into many subjects that need to be brought to the attention of a wider audience.

The winner of this year's award is **Flying Cloud Productions** for **Human Harvest**, a programme that investigated claims that first emerged from China in 2006 that state-run hospitals were killing prisoners of conscience to sell their organs. The evidence gathered by researchers suggest that tens of thousands of people have been killed "on demand" to supply an illegal organ transplant industry.

Our judges said that this programme effectively captures the horror of the story through credible testimony and proactive research. Complemented by outstanding production values and solid structures, this documentary told a story that definitely needs to be more widely known.

### Highly commended

Al Jazeera Media Network

Al Jazeera Investigates – Inside Kenya's Death Squads

The policemen who kill - counterterrorism officers in Kenya confess for the first time to the extrajudicial killings of suspects in this forceful and fearless piece of investigative journalism, commented our judges. Critical, bold and well-produced, it caused an uproar in Kenya after it was screened.

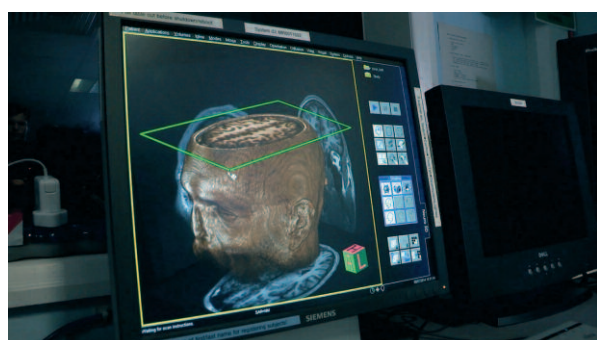
Sky News Arabia

Death Boats

A revealing insight into the plight of illegal immigrants, whose desire for a fresh life abroad drives them into the arms of human traffickers. It illustrates clearly why in their desperation individuals pin their hopes on tenuous and suspect escape routes. One judge said that this programme was timely, informative, with a sense of heart-breaking reality.

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## SCIENCE Channel 4



We saw a greater number of science programmes entered this year, all tackling the challenge of explaining often complex concepts to viewers.

**Drugs Live: Cannabis on Trial** – our winner from **Channel 4** – was a ground-breaking scientific trial looking at the effects on the brain of two different forms of cannabis - 'skunk' and 'hash'. This was a multi-faceted piece that as well as being highly entertaining was thoroughly educational, said our judges. They praised the range and depth of facts and the demonstrations in front of a studio audience were a tour de force. The production was full of creative ideas and even if you weren't familiar with the participants, they grabbed your attention.

### Highly commended

Flimmer Film

Death – A Series about Life

This is an entertaining and inspiring series on the one thing we know for sure: that life must end.

Our judges thought that this was a great way to treat a subject that modern Western society tries to avoid in everyday life, and provided educational information in a humorous way.

True Vision Productions

Curing Cancer

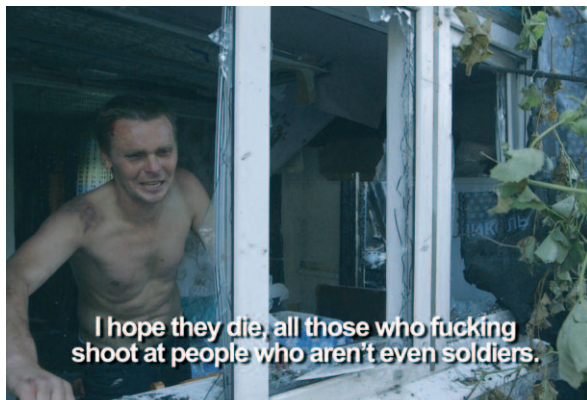
With someone in the UK being diagnosed with cancer every two minutes, the race is on to find a successful treatment before the disease progresses too far. This film made what could be challenging and difficult to watch visually interesting, said the judges. There was a perfect balance of information, emotion and personal stories plus great graphics to help the audience grasp complex medical procedures.



# The AIBs 2015

## SHORT NEWS

### VICE News



#### Highly commended

CNN

##### Ebola Battle through Nurse's Eyes

Nima Elbagir and her team dare to venture deep into the Ebola outbreak in Liberia to see how local health workers are trying to stop the spread of the deadly disease. In this poignant report, the team encourages an Ebola nurse to wear a Go-Pro camera during his daily work caring for Ebola patients. The judges said this provided a unique and remarkable view of the shocking conditions in the Ebola crisis. Alongside the despair, the report gives hope as we see some patients recovering.

As people's attention is caught by the web and social platforms, crafting short news reports in a compelling way is vital for all news outlets. Our award in this category goes to the company that has excelled in this genre.

The winner is **VICE News** for **Russian Roulette, Dispatch Fifty Seven** in which Simon Ostrovsky spoke to residents of Luhansk and Donetsk in Eastern Ukraine who are innocently caught up in the middle of a bloody war – and are dying as a result.

Our judges said that, freed from the usual constraints of broadcast television news reporting, this is an outstanding example of the future of video reporting that conveys a vivid sense of the on-going danger and pain felt in a world turned upside down by conflict.

This was an example of a very well-crafted report that gets close to the people portrayed in the story.

TVC News

##### Customised Coffins in Ghana

In Ghana, funerals are always a celebration of a life well spent and increasingly people are choosing to make a big statement in death by choosing a bespoke coffin, as Eunice Agyare Okyere of TVC News discovered. Her report was cited by judges as being really fun, with excellent journalism and creativity, cleverly conveying the unique status and importance of funerals in Ghana.

## SHORT FEATURE

### Blue Chalk Media



#### Highly commended

BBC World Service

##### Hooked

Guinea-Bissau has been a key hub in the international drugs trade for nearly a decade. It's used by South American drug cartels as a route to smuggle cocaine to Europe. *Hooked* is a five-part report in graphic novel style of the human impact of that trade. It aired in English and five other languages across Africa. Our judges said that this was a clever and accessible format that conveyed the message clearly, with a great cliff-hanger of an ending.

Telling engaging stories in 15' or less is a challenge but our entries showed it is an art that exists around the world.

Our winner this year is **Blue Chalk Media** for **Burned Girl**. Ragini is one of millions of children who are suffering from severe burn injuries. Blue Chalk Media travelled to India with an award-winning team, including internationally acclaimed directors Brent Stirton and Robert Wilson, to document Ragini's story through video and still photographs.

Our judges said that this was a great example of the short feature genre, weaving an extremely well crafted story with great camera work to make a compelling story come to life.

ITN

##### On Assignment: Heroin on the East Coast

ITN'S Robert Moore reports on the often brutal reality of life as an addict in areas such as New Jersey and the impossible task faced by campaigners and law enforcement to get a spiralling epidemic of heroin use under control as it spreads into the suburbs. This feature demonstrated amazing research, said our judges, providing an effective depiction of the impact of drug use.

# The AIBs 2015

## CHILDREN'S FACTUAL

### Strix Television - part of the Nice Group



This year's crop of entries showed how television can remain relevant for today's mobile- and web-saturated youngsters.

Our winner comes from **Strix Television – part of the Nice Group** that produced **The Museum** for SVT. *The Museum* is a competition show in which knowledge, excitement, history and the present day are woven together in a children's programme that is just as much fun for adults. Our judges said that this was a programme that combines fun and education, creating interest about historical subjects for children. The opportunity to take part and spend the night in a small team working through challenges in a spooky environment is a great format.

#### Highly commended

BBC

##### Being Me – A Newsround Special

This explored what kids think about their looks and how this affects their lives, getting them to question the reality of media images, instead of questioning their own self-worth. With fantastic casting, this was a programme that covered a highly important and relevant subject, said our jury. It was explored in a clever and engaging way that was easy to understand for children, and still maintained the interest of adults.

deMENSEN

##### The Blacklist – Getting Married

Nine-year-old Merijn is head over heels in love with ten-year old Maithé - he even wants to marry her. *The Blacklist* takes children's impossible wishes and makes them come true. This programme was described as a cool concept by judges who said that a high level of interest is maintained throughout the show. Great content, camera work and editing contributed to its "fun to watch" appeal.

## SPECIALIST GENRE

### TBI Media with Snappin' Turtle Productions



An outstanding selection of programmes were submitted to our specialist genre award that gives programme makers a free hand of subjects and treatments of stories.

The BBC brought the UK together to mark the 70th anniversary of the D-Day landings in a production by **TBI Media with Snappin' Turtle Productions, D-Day: 70 Years On**. Produced at London's Royal Albert Hall, it was broadcast on TV and radio, and screened in cinemas across the country.

Our judges said that this was a tour de force production marking an important event. The production turned into an all-embracing event and a wonderful occasion which came across in the way it was presented. The production was superb and the gamble of combining so many live elements in a show with little rehearsal paid off.

#### Highly commended

##### LOOKS Film & TV Produktionen & ARTE 14 – Diaries of the Great War

This major European co-production provided effective insight into the horror of war. It was an outstanding film, said our judges, with the recreations impeccably constructed, rich information and compelling stories.

Kansai Telecasting

##### Bunraku – Soul of the Art

Bunraku is a traditional Japanese art that originated in Osaka in the Edo period, and has been designated as a World heritage. This programme genuinely reached the soul and spirituality of this highly stylised art form. A well-crafted programme that offered an intimate and revealing insight into one of Bunraku's great masters.



# The AIBs 2015

## ONLINE FACTUAL

### Bayerischer Rundfunk



It's essential that broadcasters engage their audiences online with productions that offer ways to gain additional information and stories on a subject, and the entries this year successfully met these challenges.

The personalised documentary series about privacy and the web economy from **Bayerischer Rundfunk – Do Not Track** – explored how information about you is collected and used as you browse the web. What does this mean to the user, her family and her friends? Our judges thought that *Do Not Track* was an extremely creative, world-class production that was an excellent example of an interactive feature. Personalising the experience for every user meant that the impact of the production was increased while the unique features of the online platform were fully exploited.

### Highly commended

Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty  
My Ukraine

In a journey across Ukraine and into the country's tumultuous recent history, this production brought together 14 ordinary people to tell their family stories with the help of treasured and evocative family photographs. The stories delivered through a simple concept yet clever online execution offered high impact to users.

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## RADIO JOURNALISM

### BBC World Service



Despite the prevalence of mobile devices and increased numbers of TV news stations, radio remains a vital source of reliable news and information for billions on the planet. Our award for radio journalism reflects the continuing importance of news on this medium.

Our winner is **BBC World Service** for its **Ebola Coverage**, one of the biggest stories the international broadcaster covered during 2014. From the first reports on *Focus on Africa* in March that the mystery illness that had been circulating in Guinea was the deadly virus, BBC World Service covered the crisis despite the high health risks to its staff.

Our judges noted that this long-term reporting was a triumph of co-ordination, planning and bravery in the field. There was excellent balance between local and international correspondents with good use of multiple platforms.

The addition of context through the statistics of Hans Rosling was a masterstroke, our judges suggested.

# The AIBs 2015

## RADIO CURRENT AFFAIRS

### RTÉ Radio One



Our award for radio current affairs documentary goes to a production that has a highly engaging, intimate style – **RTÉ Radio One** and **Voices**.

Over twelve episodes *Voices* explored issues and raised questions about who we are and how we live. *Voices* featured personal stories on suicide, electroconvulsive therapy (ECT), abortion, addiction, obesity, direct provision, the rights of unmarried fathers and a wide range of other topics.

The judges said that the individuals featured told their stories with a disarming level of calmness despite the personal challenges they represented and this made the programme even stronger. Both the topics and the format are difficult to pull off, but the producers got both spot on, the judges felt.

### Highly commended

ABC

**Indigenous Soldiers Who Hid their Identity to Serve – the Untold Story**

Nance Haxton told the story of indigenous soldiers who served in the Great War but whose contribution has remained unrecognised for a century. This was a well researched story well told, said the judges, touching on an element of Australia's past that raises many questions.

Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty  
**Tradition of the Blade**

The all but untold story of FGM in Iran was explored in this programme that contained compelling interviews and authoritative narration. A difficult subject was tackled with care and sensitivity by the producers and the programme made the listener sit up and pay attention.

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## RADIO INVESTIGATIVE

### BBC World Service



Our winner of the award for best investigative radio documentary is **BBC World Service** for **The Lost Children of the Holocaust**. At the end of the Second World War, the BBC began a series of special radio appeals on behalf of a group of children who had survived the Holocaust but were now stranded in post-war Europe. They'd lost their families in the genocide but they believed they might have relatives in Britain. 70 years on, Alex Last tries to find out what happened to the children named in the recording.

This was a very strong subject very well done, said the judges – great stories, great narration that made history contemporary.

The extensive use of natural sounds was excellent throughout the programme and the production succeeded in capturing deep human emotions through excellent journalism.



# The AIBs 2015

## RADIO CREATIVE FEATURE

### BFBS



Radio offers many ways to engage listeners through the creative use of sounds in compelling stories.

Our winner in this year's creative feature award is **BFBS** for **Children of Belsen**. The judges observed it was a compelling anniversary story that deserved to be told and to reach a wider audience.

The programme benefited from extensive research that made excellent use of archive material.

The atmospheric use of well-chosen music made this an intriguing piece of work that acknowledged and celebrated the children of Belsen.

### Highly commended

RTHK

#### Bipolar Express

Bipolar Express is a 30-minute roller coaster ride through the euphoric highs and debilitating lows of the bipolar mind. Produced and presented by sufferer Sadie Kaye, the documentary gives an enlightening account of what it means to live with bipolar disorder.

The judges noted the clever use of effects to envelop listeners in the bipolar experience, and that the production peaked interest, engages, raises questions and most definitely holds attention.



**The Association for International Broadcasting and its Members around the world congratulate all the winners and finalists in the *AIBs* 2015**

**The *AIBs* 2016 will open for entry in April**

**Find out more at [theaibs.tv](http://theaibs.tv)**

# The AIBs 2015

## TV PERSONALITY

### Christiane Amanpour



**Christiane Amanpour** is CNN's chief international correspondent and anchor of the network's award-winning, flagship global affairs programme *Amanpour*.

Beginning in 1983 as an entry-level assistant on the international assignment desk at CNN's headquarters in Atlanta, Amanpour rose through the organisation becoming a reporter at the New York bureau, and later, the network's leading international correspondent.

Amanpour's fearless and uncompromising approach made her popular with audiences, and a force to be reckoned with by global influencers – in 1996, *Newsweek* said that her reporting from conflict hotspots in the Gulf and the Balkans had helped make CNN 'must-see TV for world leaders'.

On the ground during the siege of Sarajevo, Amanpour exposed the brutality of the Bosnian War. She reported on the daily tragedy of life for civilians in the city – work for which she was made an honorary citizen of Sarajevo.

Amanpour was outspoken in her reporting from the conflict, one of the few international correspondents to call out the campaign of ethnic cleansing conducted against Bosniak Muslim population by Bosnian Serbs, later saying "There are some situations one simply cannot be neutral about, because when you are neutral you are an accomplice."

Throughout her time at CNN Amanpour has secured exclusive interviews with global power players. In the wake of the September 11 attacks she was the first international correspondent to interview British Prime Minister Tony Blair, Pakistani president Pervez Musharraf and Afghan President Hamid Karzai.

Our judges said that Amanpour is a thoroughly professional writer, interviewer and presenter and that she sets a standard that all others should aspire to. She's not afraid to ask the most challenging questions of some of the world's most powerful people, and to ensure that the viewer gets the answer.

At the same time, she is compassionate and engaging, dealing with the most challenging, heart-rending stories of our age with consummate professionalism.



# The AIBs 2015

## AIB LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

### Larry King



It's not correct to call every on-screen TV interviewer an icon. However, in the case of Larry King it is definitely appropriate.

One of the best-known faces on news television in the world, King has interviewed the most prominent newsmakers in the world, from politicians to celebrities to sports men and women.

King started his broadcasting career on radio as a morning DJ in 1957 in Miami Beach on WAHR(AM) (now WMBM), where he doubled as an afternoon newscaster and sports reporter. In 1978, he began a nationwide evening show on Mutual Broadcasting System, mixing a single 90-minute interview with phone-ins from listeners.

With his trademark braces (or suspenders as Americans call them), making him instantly recognisable in almost every country on the planet, it is King's curiosity and compassion that has brought the best from his interviewees, whether president or pop star. He has interviewed every US president since Richard Nixon,

world leaders such as Margaret Thatcher, Tony Blair, Mahmoud Ahmadinejad and Vladimir Putin, and pop stars from Paul McCartney to Lady Gaga.

King holds the world record for the longest-running television show hosted by the same person on the same network and in the same time slot – *Larry King Live* on CNN. The show launched in June 1985 and ran until December 2010.

He's quoted as saying that he has "never brought my opinions to the show", as "I never learnt anything while I was talking". Instead, he coaxes information from his guests through a non-confrontational style that allows them to be centre stage and perhaps reveal more than they might have intended.

King has made cameo appearances in more than 20 movies, including *Ghostbusters*, *Primary Colors*, *America's Sweethearts*, *Shrek 2* and the 2004 remake of *The Stepford Wives*. King has appeared in television series such as *Law and Order*,

**King, one of the best known faces on news TV, is also one of the most influential people in the business**

*Boston Legal*, *The Practice*, *Arli\$\$*, *Murphy Brown* and *Frasier*.

As he approaches his 82nd birthday, King shows no sign of reducing his workload as he continues to delight audiences with his inimitable style in new shows launching in November 2015 – *Larry King Now* and *Politicking with Larry King*, developed specifically for the global RT Channel.

Larry King has been one of the most influential people in news television for the past three decades, and in radio for over 50 years. He is known across the world, thanks to his eponymous TV show that ran for 25 years on CNN and that is now on RT Channel, Ora TV and Hulu. In recognition of his remarkable career on radio and television, and his extraordinary impact on the news industry, the Association for International Broadcasting is honoured to welcome Larry to London to present him with the inaugural Association for International Broadcasting Lifetime Achievement Award.

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## RADIO PERSONALITY

### Kathryn Ryan

Kathryn Ryan works at Radio New Zealand where she anchors the daily *Nine to Noon*. The three-hour live news and current affairs programme which runs each weekday displays her intelligence, acuity, warmth and versatility on a daily basis.

Beginning with an hour devoted to analysing and explaining the latest news of the day, Kathryn interviews key newsmakers in New Zealand and around the world. And when news is breaking, these encounters may be conducted with little or no preparation. She has to probe stories and test her interviewees during this hour, but she does so with a calm approach, incisive but polite questions, and always thinking of what her extensive audience would like to hear as complex issues are unravelled and explained.

During each three-hour show, Kathryn shows the ability to switch interviewing modes and tones with ease, keeping her audience both engaged and entertained.

For live broadcasting to be so regularly outstanding is a testament to her skill, her intelligent use of her broadcasting and professional background. The quality of those fronting up to her studio attests to the regard in which she is held as one of New Zealand's top broadcasters. She draws out leading contributors from the fields of politics, science, business and the arts, technology and sport; debates contemporary and emerging issues; and explores the personal stories of guests from New Zealand and around the world.

Our judges praised Kathryn's excellent interviewing skills on a wide range of issues, with good pacing and warm engagement. She can be both challenging and entertaining – quite often simultaneously – and definitely draws the best from her guests.





# The AIBs 2015

## AIB FOUNDERS AWARD

### Mike Wooldridge



Mike Wooldridge began his journalistic career at the BBC in 1970 as a sub-editor in the newsroom at Bush House, home at the time to the BBC External Services, now BBC World Service. Over his almost five decades of reporting, he has reported from four continents, covering major stories for every BBC News outlet – the death of General Franco, the famines in Ethiopia, and the life and death of Nelson Mandela.

Mike has always had a love of Africa and held the post of East Africa correspondent from 1982 until 1989 – something he has described as his dream job. From his base in Nairobi, he travelled to South Africa as the apartheid regime started to disintegrate; to Libya; Nigeria; Ghana and, of course, Ethiopia.

Here he worked with legendary photo-journalist Mohamed Amin – who later lost his life in the hijacking of an Ethiopian Airlines plane in 1996 that ended when the hijacker crashed the plane off the coast of the Comoros Islands.

Mike recalls fondly the days of the BBC standard issue Uher portable tape recorder that he

**“Mike brought the first reports of the Ethiopian famine to BBC audiences”**

carried throughout much of his career, along with razor blades, splicing tape and crocodile clips to hook the recorder up to telephone lines to file reports.

Like many foreign correspondents, Mike has had his close escapes, such as escaping a strafing by South African planes during the Angolan Bush War. As he ran to the cover of the bush, ever the journalist, Mike managed to fire up his Uher and record the attack.

In 1990 he was one of the very few British journalists to witness Nelson Mandela’s release. In February 1990, as word began to spread that Mandela’s release was imminent, Wooldridge chartered a plane from Johannesburg to Cape Town with a group of foreign journalists. He arrived at the gates of Victor Verster Prison before Mandela walked through them, but had no way of filing live reports back to London.

None of the local villagers were connected to the phone network and so Wooldridge was faced with a seemingly insurmountable problem. Extraordinarily a telephone engineer came driving down the road at just the right

moment. “He pulled over, we got chatting and I explained my predicament,” he recalls.

“The end result was that he dropped a line down from the overhead telephone cable, put a handset on the end of it, and then produced a contract for me to sign.

“I think it cost me 240 rand [around £16] and it meant I had a telephone line right opposite the prison gates in the middle of nowhere.”

When the crowds began to grow, Mike clambered on to the roof of his Volkswagen Golf to get a better view as Mandela emerged into the sunlight and thanks to that phone engineer, BBC audiences heard Mike’s commentary on the release.

In 1996 he was appointed South Asia correspondent. During his posting he covered the 50th anniversary of the independence of India and Pakistan, the two countries’ nuclear tests and their conflict in Kashmir.

In 2002, Mike was awarded an OBE for “services to broadcasting in developing countries”.

The AIB Founders Award is recognition of Mike’s lifetime work as an outstanding correspondent.



# The AIBs 2015

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Association for International Broadcasting

**AIB is the international industry association for television, radio and online broadcasting. AIB is a not-for-profit, non-governmental organisation that represents, supports and lobbies on behalf of its members and the wider media industry.**

AIB provides its members with member-exclusive market intelligence briefings, networking events, specialised consulting services, promotional and PR support and a range of other benefits.

AIB is in regular contact with more than 26,000 people working in electronic media globally: media executives, producers, editors, journalists, technical directors, regulators, politicians and academics.

As we enter our third decade, AIB's membership continues to grow. Talk to us to explore how AIB can help your company - across strategy, technology, programming, training and more.

AIB is here to help.

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# AIB's growing global membership





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