

CONTRIBUTORS' BIOGRAPHIES

Pouyan Abdoli, Tar Player, Composer, Concert Co-ordinator



Pouyan Abdoli is educated as a classical tar ('string') player at the Teheran Music Conservatory, but can also play the drum tombak, and the water flute ney. Brought up in a family of famous Iranian singers, Abdoli has studied with Iranian masters since he was eight and decided at an early age to become a musician himself. Based on his classical, traditional background, Abdoli has developed his music in many directions, among them towards improvisations open to other influences than those set by the origin of his training and instruments. Based in Norway for the last six years, he has performed widely here, but also in Sweden, England and Germany. Today, Abdoli is the leader of a band called 'Psychosofi'. In addition, in 2003, he released a CD with the Indian-born tabla player Jai Shankar, thus facilitating an exiled encounter of traditional Iranian and traditional Indian music. At the 'Activists under Attack' conference, Abdoli will perform with Per-Kristian Larsen.

D. A. V. E. Ader, Ambassador, The Royal Netherlands Embassy to Norway



Erik Ader is the Netherlands' Ambassador to Norway and Iceland and is currently also representing the European Union Chair. Prior to coming to Norway, he has served as a diplomat in the Middle East, Latin America, East Africa and South East Asia. Ader has also held various positions in the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs, including the Inspectorate. Educated an Economist, Ader claims to have no specialist knowledge on human rights defenders. What he knows, he has learnt from his various postings as a diplomat. As Ambassador for the Netherlands, though, he represents a country that has made a reputation for itself for its commitment to human rights, most often combined with a down to earth, practical approach when it comes to implementing the various initiatives taken either by Dutch diplomacy on its own, or channelled through various coalitions of diplomatic representation, sometimes in combination with international organizations like the UN, the EU etc.

Ida Aubert Bang, Solo Harpist, Student



Ida Aubert Bang, 17, has played the harp for nine years, and the violin for 13. A student at the downtown Foss High School, Oslo, she has chosen harp as her main instrument for further professional training. For the last four years, Aubert Bang has also been a student at Barratt Due Institute of Music. As such, she has played numerous concerts, including exclusive shows for the institute's sponsors. In the autumn of 2002 and for Christmas 2003, Aubert Bang was the soloist at performances of Vivaldi's Concert for Harp and Orchestra. She has also played for the French Ambassador as part of his young Norwegian talent series and is frequently requested to perform with amateur orchestras. For the 17th of May (Norway's National Constitution Day) 2004, Aubert Bang was the soloist with Oslo Symphony Orchestra in the Oslo Concert Hall. In January 2005, she will be a soloist with Romerike Symphony Orchestra at concerts in both Nes and Lillestrøm.

Aage Borchgrevink, Adviser, the Norwegian Helsinki Committee



Borchgrevink is educated in Norway and the US and graduated with an MA in Comparative Literature from the University of Oslo in 1997. Five years prior to that, in 1992, he began working for the Norwegian Helsinki Committee for Human Rights (NHC), first as a Civilian Worker, but since 1998, as Adviser. Borchgrevink has researched, prepared and edited a number of NHC and International Helsinki Federation for Human Rights (IHF) reports and documents on various human rights issues in the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) area. He is also a Member of the Board of Stichting Chechnya Justice Initiative, an organization based in Moscow, Ingushetia and the Netherlands, representing clients from Chechnya before the European Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg. Borchgrevink works as a critic, journalist and writer of fiction and non-fiction. His third book, a collection of short stories, will be published this month.

Solo Cissokho, Singer and Kora player



Solo Cissokho, founding member of both the Norway based band Cissokho System and the England based band Jalikunda, belongs to the Mandinka minority of Senegal. Born in Ziguinchor in the Casamance region in the south of the country, he also belongs to a big griot (singer and story-teller) family in which he is the uncle of the famous kora player Seckou Keita. Cissokho has lived in both England and France, but is now based in Oslo. In Norway, Cissokho is perhaps best known for his contribution to the CD 'Frå Setesdal til Senegal,' featuring, in addition to himself, the Ivorian-born Kouame Sereba, also Oslo-based, and the Norwegian folk musicians Kirsten Bråten Berg and Bjørgulv Straume. Cissokho has played with fellow West African musicians and also fiddlers from India and Sweden. The latter co-operation project brought him an award for best album in 2003 in the category 'boundary crossing,' as voted by the listeners to BBC radio.

Maria Dahle, Executive Director, the Human Rights House Foundation



Maria Dahle has been the ED of HRH since 1994 and was also, until recently, the Director of the whole Human Rights House in Oslo. She has an MSc Degree in Business from the Norwegian School of Economics and Business Administration in Bergen, specializing in strategy, organization and management. Prior to taking the helm at HRH, Dahle worked as a journalist at the newspaper *Finansavisen*, and was also a theatre instructor. Instrumental in developing both the Human Rights House concept and the network of Human Rights Houses, she was also the Co-ordinator of Dugnad 98, a national multi-event involving some 50 NGOs marking the 50th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Dahle has promoted human rights education to become part of the primary school curriculum in Albania and Turkey. She was a co-initiator of Voice of Tibet and is currently the Chair of the Board for the radio station, transmitting to the region including Tibet.

Özlem Dalkiran, Media Officer, Amnesty International, Turkey



Özlem Dalkiran has been involved in the struggle for human rights for many years and in different organizations. As a founding member of Amnesty International Turkey, she has been its media spokesperson ever since and served as Chair for two terms. Dalkiran went to Iraq in July 2003 for a month and took part in the AI high level mission as its media worker. She is also a member of the Helsinki Citizens' Assembly-Turkey and Peace Initiative. Since the end of 2002, she has been a member of the Advisory Committee of Open Society Institute-Turkey. Currently she is working on two projects in Turkey: 'Cinema and Human Rights' which travels around Turkey to raise HR awareness through the arts and a public campaign to prevent "honour killings" in Southeastern Turkey. She is a member of AI's Humanitarian Aid Working Group and comes to the 'Activists under Attack' conference directly from the New Tactics in Human Rights Ankara Symposium.

Srdjan Dizdarevic, President of the Board of the Human Rights House of Sarajevo



Srdjan Dizdarevic, born in 1952, is educated a Philosopher. From being Editor-in-Chief of the newspaper *Oslobodjenje*, he moved on to serve as First Secretary of the former Yugoslav Embassy to France. In 1995, Dizdarevic became a member of 'Circle 99,' the Association of Independent Intellectuals, and was also elected President of the Helsinki Committee for Human Rights in Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH). The following year, Dizdarevic was elected member of the Executive Committee of the International Helsinki Federation, and also member of the Presidency of the Civic Alternative Parliament. Dizdarevic has contributed heavily to BiH's truth and reconciliation process, to the establishment of media monitoring procedures and also to the sophistication of election observation, the latter not the least through his co-drafting of the Permanent Election Law. He is also a keen writer, with more than 30 articles to his record, published both within BiH and beyond.

Andrej Dynko, Editor-in-Chief, Nasha Niva weekly, Vice President of Belarusian PEN, HRH Representative, Minsk



After functioning as Senior Editor for 19 months, Dynko, born in 1974, was made Editor-in-Chief of the independent weekly *Nasha Niva* in September 2000. Openly critical to President Lukashenko's regime, and the only major newspaper written in Belarusian, *Nasha Niva* has become an important symbol of freedom and independence. Dynko is a Graduate from Minsk State Linguistic University, and holds an MA in International Relations. Until August 2000, he also taught at his Alma Mater. From 2002, Dynko has been the Vice-President of the Belarusian PEN Center. In 2003, Vaclav Havel passed on to him the Hanno Ellenbogen Citizenship Award. The same year, he was instrumental to the creation of HRH's widely distributed official network meeting's statement, addressing the rapidly deteriorating security and working conditions of Belarusian human rights defenders. Dynko is also a key person in HRH's networking activities towards Belarus.

Odd Einar Dørum, Minister of Justice, Norway



Odd Einar Dørum has a BA from the University of Trondheim, majoring in History, and has also completed the Social Work College where he went on to teach and research for several years. In 1977, he was elected Member of Parliament, representing the political party *Venstre* ('Left'), for which he was named MP Group Secretary in 1981. Dørum has been the health- and social issues consultant for the Church and City Mission, an organization working in most big cities in Norway to improve the lives of those in need there. Prior to returning as an MP in 1997, he also lead *Venstre*'s contingency in the City Parliament of Oslo for almost two years. Dørum's first spell in Government was as Minister of Transport and Communications, but in 1999 he was named Minister of Justice, a position he is now holding for the second time. Dørum is known for his commitment to the environment, but has also stood out as a spokesperson for numerous social causes.

Shirin Ebadi, Lawyer and Judge, Nobel Peace Prize Laureate 2003, Rafto Prize Laureate 2001



Educated a lawyer, Shirin Ebadi was first known outside Iran as the country's first female judge, a position she had to leave following the 1979 revolution. Initially objecting most kinds of female participation in politics and public discourse, especially at top level, the conservative clergy which has held power since has gradually opened up for democratic initiatives to gain momentum. Ebadi has played a key role in this process, not only for the promotion of general human rights, but also, and in particular, for the advocacy of women's and children's rights. Time and again, Ebadi has found herself at the receiving end of various human rights violations, mostly as a consequence of her willingness to defend and demand redress for other victims of human rights violations. For her lasting commitment to the improvement of human rights standards in Iran and beyond, Ebadi has been named both the Rafto Prize Laureate for 2001 and the Nobel Peace Prize Laureate for 2003.

Musa Yerro Gassama , Manager, Human Rights Defenders' Office, Deputy Director, International Service Human Rights



Musa Yerro Gassama holds a Bachelor of Law Degree from the University of Sierra Leone and a Post-Graduate Barrister-At-Law Certificate from the Sierra Leone Law School. In addition, he has an Advanced Diploma in French from the University of Cheikh Anta Diop of Senegal. Gambian-born Gassama has served in his own country as a Magistrate for four years and for one year as Head and Editor of the Gambia Law Report Commission. He has also been a part-time teacher on criminal and civil procedures at the Gambia Technical Training Institute and carried out series of training for para-legals. For several years, Gassama worked with Amnesty International as Africa Regional Human Rights Defenders Co-ordinator. He speaks English, French and many African languages, and has wide experience in working with local, regional and international NGOs. Gassama has also conducted research and field missions on human rights violations in many countries in Africa.

Bernt Hagtvet, Professor, Department of Political Science, University of Oslo, Board Member, HRH



Bernt Hagtvet, born in 1946, was educated at the Universities of Oslo and Bergen in Norway, at Yale, in Connecticut, US and at Nuffield College, Oxford, UK. The author and editor of numerous books, Hagtvet's main research and teaching interests are human rights, theories of democracy, European fascism, totalitarian and authoritarian regimes, and intellectuals in politics. From 1983 to 1994, Hagtvet was the Director of Research for the Programme of Human Rights Studies at Christian Michelsen Institute in Bergen. Towards the end of this period, in 1992, he co-edited, with Professor Asbjørn Eide, a Nobel Symposium book; *Human Rights in Perspective: A Global Assessment*, published at Oxford Blackwell. Hagtvet is a regular contributor to Norwegian and international newspapers, journals and magazines, and a much sought after lecturer and speaker. He has also been a member of the board of Human Rights House Foundation (HRH) from its inception.

Niels Jacob Harbitz, Project Manager, HRH Secretariat



Niels Jacob Harbitz joined the Human Rights House Foundation (HRH) in June 2003 and has been the Project Manager for HRH's East Africa projects since. With twenty years' experience as a freelance journalist, and holding a diploma in web journalism and editorial management, he is also involved in HRH's media work and information activities. Harbitz is educated in social anthropology, media and communication, the arts and literature from the Universities of Oslo and Bergen, and philosophy and political theory from New York University and University of Westminster. He has also taught media aesthetics, -history and -theory at the University of Oslo. His prior work experience includes four years' care-taking, training and teaching of children and youth in kindergarten, schools and other institutions, a decade of voluntary work for the NGO Youth for Nuclear Disarmament, and consultancy and promotion engagements for various publishing houses.

Jan E. Helgesen, Associate Professor, Norwegian Centre for Human Rights, University of Oslo



Educated at the Faculty of Law, University of Oslo, Jan E. Helgesen is currently Associate Professor at the Norwegian Centre for Human Rights. In addition, he is Legal Adviser to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Norwegian Member of the European Commission for Democracy through Law (The Venice Commission). His prime areas of research are international law, human rights law and legal methodology. Helgesen has written extensively in all these areas. For fifteen years, the last five as Chairman-Rapporteur, he was also a member of the team of international experts established under ECOSOC and The Human Rights Commission who drafted the 'Declaration on the Right and Responsibility of Individuals, Groups and Organs of Society to Promote and Protect Universally Recognized Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms'. His mandate included extensive inter-
sessional negotiations with Governments and NGOs to have the Declaration adopted by consensus.

Markus Jaeger, Deputy to the Director, Office for the Commissioner for Human Rights, Council of Europe



After working as a banker in Germany, Jaeger studied philosophy, law and political sciences in Germany, France and Switzerland. He joined the Council of Europe in 1989 and worked in various fields, including the reform of the European Social Charter, the setting up of administrative tribunals in Eastern and Central Europe, institution building in Albania, organising international co-operation in the fight against corruption, Secretary General's Unit for confidential monitoring of member States' compliance with commitments and obligations as regards human rights, the functioning of democratic institutions and the rule of law. In 2000, he was recruited by the British Secretary General of INTERPOL as Deputy Director of Legal Affairs and then promoted to Acting General Counsel by the incoming American Secretary General. He resigned from Interpol three months after 9/11 and was offered his present post by the Council of Europe upon return.

Thorbjørn Jagland, Chairman of the Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Member of the Norwegian Parliament



Educated an economist, Thorbjørn Jagland has been part of the leadership of the Norwegian Labour Party for almost 30 years. From leading its Youth League from 1977 to 1981, he went on to become the party's Secretary and then its Leader, a position he held for ten years, until 2002. Jagland has also led his party's contingency in the Norwegian Parliament, and served as both Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs. A regular contributor to Norwegian public debate, Jagland has written several books on international relations, negotiations and other affairs. As a true believer in human rights and democracy, Jagland has shown a keen interest in and also an acute understanding of the importance not only of state-to-state dialogue, but also of the great variety of efforts carried out by non-governmental actors and organizations. From his various positions, Jagland has demonstrated a particular engagement with the Middle East peace process and EU affairs.

Ida Nikolaevna Kuklina, Research Fellow, Member of the Union of Soldiers' Mothers Committees of Russia



Ida Kuklina graduated in 1956 from the faculty of Law at the Leningrad State University, but continued studying at the Department of Economics and Political Relations. A Doctor of Political Science, she is now a Research Fellow at the Russian Academy of Sciences. Since 1993, she has been a member of the Union of Soldiers Mothers Committees of Russia (UCSMR), one of the founding bodies of the Human Rights Center of Russia, aka the Human Rights House in Moscow. Kuklina is a member of the UCSMR Co-ordination Council and Secretary of the its Analytical Commission. Since 2002, she has been a member of the Commission on Human Rights of the President of Russia. UCSMR was established in 1989 to protect the human rights of draftees, soldiers, and their parents. Its goals are to develop civil society and civil control over the armed forces. The Soldiers' Mothers work for the immediate abolishment of obligatory conscription.

Borghild Tønnessen-Krokan, Project Manager, HRH Secretariat



Borghild Tønnessen-Krokan has worked at HRH since May 2001 with the establishment of Human Rights Houses and with network and information activities. She has studied the Middle East and Spanish and holds two Masters Degrees, one in Political Science from the University of Oslo, the other in Media and Communications from the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE). Her dissertations were on US-Cuban human rights rhetorics, and the media coverage of the Rushdie affair. Tønnessen-Krokan has co-ordinated voluntary work for the Norwegian Students' and Academics' International Assistance Fund (SAIH), and also at the West Bank and the Gaza strip. Prior to joining HRH, she worked as a journalist both at NRK, the Norwegian Broadcasting Corporation, and at the newspaper *Liberalt* forum. Tønnessen-Krokan has also been the Information Director at the Center for International Climate and Environmental Research, CICERO, in Oslo.

Gara LaMarche, Vice President and Director, US Programs, Open Society Institute



Gara LaMarche is Vice President and Director of U.S. Programs for the Open Society Institute, a foundation established by George Soros to promote open societies around the world. His articles on human rights and social justice issues have appeared in publications including *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, *The Los Angeles Times*, *Newsday*, *The Nation*, *The American Prospect*, *The Texas Observer*, and *The Wharton Magazine*, and he is the editor of *Speech and Equality: Do We Really Have to Choose?* LaMarche has taught at New School University and The John Jay College of Criminal Justice. He serves on the board of Article 19, the international free expression organization; as a member of the Sundance Documentary Fund Selection Committee; on the U.S. Advisory Committee for Index on Censorship, the London-based human rights magazine; and on the Advisory Committee for the Human Rights Watch Women's Rights Division.

Per-Kristian Larsen, Classical Guitar Player, Cajón Percussionist, Flamenco Singer, and Teacher



Educated at the Norwegian Academy of Music in Oslo, Per-Kristian Larsen made his official Debut Diploma Concert as a classical guitar player in 1984. Ever since, he has been a free-lance musician. Larsen has played innumerable concerts in Norway, but has also performed in Italy, Spain, Sweden and Russia. In addition to being a renowned soloist and a much sought after accompanist by many singers, he has been central to the introduction and development of a genuine flamenco culture in Norway. To do so, Larsen has studied flamenco singing with the local masters in Sevilla and playing the cajón, the Peruvian percussion instrument fairly recently introduced to flamenco music, in Almeria. A teacher of classical guitar playing at two high schools in Oslo, Larsen has co-authored a book and developed a school on the same subject. He has contributed to one CD of contemporary music and will be performing at the 'Activists under Attack' conference with Pouyan Abdoli.

Mary Lawlor, Director, Frontline - the International Foundation for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders



Mary Lawlor has a background of 30 years experience in human rights. She set up *Front Line* - the International Foundation for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders in 2001 in order to focus solely on supporting and defending human rights defenders at risk. As Director, she represents the organization and has a key role in its development. Prior to Front Line, she was Director of the Irish Section of Amnesty International for 12 years and before that was a Board member for 15 years, during which she served as Chair from 1983-1987. She has wide experience of the development of a human rights organization having a significant role in bringing the Irish section of Amnesty from a membership of less than a hundred with no staff, to a professional, well-known and respected organization with 14,000 members and 13 staff. She has a BA in Philosophy and Psychology and post-graduate degrees in Personnel Management and Montessori teaching.

Alexa LeBlanc, Programmes and Fundraising Director, International Federation for Human Rights



Alexa LeBlanc has been involved in international solidarity work for more than ten years. She has been an International Federation for Human Rights Staff Member since 1997, where for more than five years she was responsible for the Latin American Desk, organising missions and seminars on various human rights themes throughout the continent. Today, she is FIDH's Programmes and Fundraising Director and a Member of the organization's Executive Committee. FIDH was set up in 1922 and is now a federation of 116 human rights organizations in nearly 100 countries. It coordinates and supports their activities and provides them with a voice at the international level. Like its member organizations, FIDH is linked to no party, no religion, and is independent vis-à-vis all governments. FIDH's aim is to obtain effective improvements in the protection of victims, the prevention of human rights abuse and the prosecution of those responsible.

Evelin Gerda Lindner, Interdisciplinary Social Scientist, Department of Psychology, University of Oslo



Evelin Lindner has two PhD degrees, one in Medicine, the other in Social Psychology. While the former discussed various aspects contributing to a general experience of life quality from a medical point of view, the latter, awarded in 2001 from the University of Oslo, dealt with the damaging effects of humiliation and other kinds of degrading treatment. Lindner is the Founding Manager of Human Dignity and Humiliation Studies (www.humiliationstudies.org), a Columbia University based network of scholars, researchers and practitioners involved in activities related to her own interests, and is currently working to expand this network worldwide. Lindner has studied, worked and lived in Asia, Africa, the United States and Europe and has, among other things, provided psychological counselling in Cairo for seven years. In addition to her post at the University of Oslo, she is also affiliated with the Maison des Sciences de l'Homme in Paris. She speaks 12 languages.

Carlos Iván Lopera, Lawyer, Philosopher, Human Rights Activist



Carlos Iván Lopera co-funded the Colombian peace and human rights organization Redepaz ('Peace Network') in 1993 and is currently one of its Board Members. Since its inception, Redepaz has grown to become one of the most important citizens' initiatives to promote non-violent solutions to the country's conflict. Educated a lawyer from the University of Antioquia and a Philosopher and Theologist from the Santo Tomás de Aquino University, Lopera has been key to several peace- and human rights initiatives, among them the dialogue commission vis-à-vis the armed opposition in the violence-ridden Antioquia region, surrounding the city of Medellín in the north-west of Colombia. In the mid-nineties, he was responsible for the human rights education at the national trade union's academy. Since then, Lopera has dedicated himself to local and regional peace and human rights work to the point that he is now considered one of Colombia's leading human rights defenders.

Ben Majekodunmi, Assistant to the UN Secretary-General's Special Representative on Human Rights Defenders



Ben Majekodunmi is Assistant to Hina Jilani, the UN Secretary General's Special Representative on Human Rights Defenders. As such, he is also a Staff Member with the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR). Majekodunmi's human rights experience includes volunteer work with various European NGOs supporting persons in detention, children living on the streets and persons with disabilities. He has worked with the OHCHR in Rwanda and Nepal and with UNICEF in Burundi and at its research centre in Florence, Italy. As an international expert in the field, Majekodunmi has written extensively on human rights monitoring in relation to counter-terrorism and emergency situations, armed conflict and peace-keeping, refugees and IDPs, children, the media and numerous other issues. He is also a much sought after human rights monitoring trainer and course instructor, speaker and lecturer, with several keynote addresses to his record.

Martin O. Masiga, Director and National Coordinator, Human Rights Network (HURINET), Uganda



Martin O. Masiga is the National Co-ordinator of Human Rights Network (HURINET), an umbrella organization for the whole of Uganda. Trained at Makerere University, he is a human rights lawyer and a member of the Uganda Law Society (ULS). Having worked as Sub-Editor for the Kampala Law Reports (KALR) from 1995 to 1999, Masiga is well experienced in law reporting. He joined Amnesty International in 1998, and was Vice President of the Uganda Chapter from 1999 and 2001. In 1999, he was called to the bar and went into private practice. Masiga is also a trainer in human rights and refugee law and has written extensively on human rights application, covering areas including international criminal justice, international refugee law, human rights enforcement mechanisms, HIV/AIDS and human rights, corruption and socio-economic rights and the media. He has served as board member of numerous NGOs and also the EU Civil Society Steering Committee.

Mette Newth, Author, Illustrator, Translator and Lecturer, Board Member, HRH



Mette Newth was educated at The Norwegian National College of Art and Design and the National Academy of Fine Arts. Her publications include 20 books of fiction and numerous articles on policies of art, culture, human rights, minority rights, multiculturalism, published in Norway and abroad. Newth is a guest lecturer at colleges and universities in Norway and abroad, and has held several positions such as Chair of the Norwegian Council of Artists, rector of the National College of Art and Design in Bergen, Norway (1989 – 93) and Rector of the Oslo National College of Art (1999-2002). As administrator of Norwegian Forum for Freedom of Expression (1995- 98) Newth initiated "*Beacon for Freedom of Expression*" an international bibliographic database on censorship and freedom of expression through the ages, and chair the International Project Steering Committee. The Beacon- project is a gift from Norway to Bibliotheca Alexandrina.

Vemund Olsen, Student, Peace Brigades International Volunteer



Vemund Olsen currently studies for his MA at the Centre for Human Rights, University of Oslo. His BA had majors in Social Anthropology and minors in Philosophy and Spanish and Latin American Studies. In 2001-2003, Olsen worked for two of the field teams operating for the international NGO Peace Brigades International (PBI) in Colombia. In the Uraba team in the north-west, he escorted Peace Communities, i.e. internally displaced people refusing to carry arms and thus be drawn into Colombia's permanent state of conflict. In the Medellín team, in addition to escorting Peace Communities, he also provided protective accompaniment to human rights defenders. From August 2003 to August 2004, Olsen was a UN volunteer for UNHCR in Venezuela, working for Colombian refugees in the border areas. PBI protects human rights defenders in danger as a consequence of their peaceful, legitimate work to preserve a political space for civil society / human rights work.

Jarle Ree, Photographer



Jarle Ree is a Freelance Photographer with an international reputation for his social documentaries. He has worked for major Scandinavian newspapers, publishers, NGOs, advertising agencies and private companies. Ree travels widely and his work includes series of photographs from Europe, Africa, South-East Asia, South America and Oceania. Among his solo exhibitions are 'Indian Impressions,' displayed at KODAK, Oslo in 1990, 'Albanian Portraits,' at Kunstnerforbundet, Oslo, 1996, and 'Internally Displaced Persons in Azerbaijan,' in the Crypt of the Cathedral of Oslo in 1998. Ree has participated in numerous group exhibitions and received some of the most prestigious travel, study, work, project and material grants for artists from the Norwegian Government. In 2002, he made many of his pictures available for the publication of 'Heartlines,' a book project materialised jointly by HRH, Amnesty International, Norway and the Norwegian Refugee Council.

Per Roar, Dancer and Choreographer



After reading history and social sciences in Oslo, Budapest and Oxford, Per Roar studied choreography at the Oslo National College of the Arts, and contemporary dance at New York Dance Intensive and the Susan Klein School of Dance. Per Roar has received numerous scholarships and awards, among them, a Fulbright Scholarship in 1998 and the Norwegian Government's work grant for artists 2000-2003. His Masters degree, in Performance Studies, was awarded at the Tisch School of the Arts, also in NYC, in 1999. Per Roar has worked as a dancer and choreographer since 1991, and has staged his works both in Norway and abroad. Among numerous productions challenging notions of multiculturalism and 'the other,' Per Roar has explored domestic stereotypes, especially in his trilogy *The Norwegian House*. At the moment, Roar is a PhD candidate at the Oslo National College of the Arts, focussing on documentary based choreography in a multimedia context.