

WORLD MUSIC STAR AT THE GIJC

Mari Boine, age 51, is the most famous Sámi Norwegian artist, known for having added jazz and rock to the traditional yoiks of the Sámi people. Boine grew up in Finnmark, the northernmost county in Norway. She has toured all over Europe as well as the United States, and has won several prizes for her music. When she grew up, the Sami people were discriminated in Norway, and when asked to perform at the 1994 Winter Olympics in Lillehammer, she refused.

Yoik, joik or juoiggus is a traditional Sámi form of song. In northern Sámi areas, most yoiks are personal, and a yoik is often made for a person at birth. Source: Wikipedia

BLOGGERS CHANGING POLITICAL JOURNALISM

More than 500 bloggers were accredited at the Democratic Party's national convention in August. Four years ago, about ten bloggers followed the parties' conventions. Google provided them with food and Internet access for \$100. The drastic increase in U.S. election bloggers shows that the user-generated contents are on its way into the political journalism as well. "Such things as "off the record conversations" do not exist anymore, neither do "private situations"', president Simon Rosenberg in New Democrat Network says to Wall Street Journal.

US-FILMMAKER DETAINED IN NIGERIA

Authorities detained a U.S. filmmaker in Nigeria's troubled oil producing region on August 31, The Associated Press reports. He was detained for filming the military without authorization, an official said.

The military allegedly handed the American to state security operatives for questioning after arresting him for filming troops at the waterfront in the southern oil center of Port Harcourt. Reporters Without Borders identified the filmmaker as Andrew Berends from New York. Berends was arrested together with his interpreter and a local bar owner in Port Harcourt.



Daniel Pearl was kidnapped in Karachi, Pakistan in 2002. A videotape later showed his beheading. PHOTO: SCANPIX

Investigating the murder of a colleague

Massoud Ansari was intrigued by the murder of a colleague. Now he's written a book about the death of Wall Street Journal-reporter Daniel Pearl.

By Mari Hauge Åsland

Massoud Ansari, Islamabad-based journalist reporting for Pakistani newsmagazine the Herald and correspondent for the Sunday Telegraph of London, started investigating the murder of Wall Street Journal reporter Daniel Pearl because he was located at the right place, and wanted to write a book about the murder.

"I became friends with some of the investigators, and the more I learnt about the case, the more interesting the case became. I was involved in researching the documentary called The Journalist and the Jihadi", Ansari says.

Ansari is not the only journalist intrigued by the murder. In Pearl's homecountry, the United States, students of journalism are now involved in investigating the murder through the Daniel Pearl project at Georgetown University.

Sentenced to death

Wall Street Journal-reporter Daniel Pearl was kidnapped and brutally murdered when in Karachi, Pakistan in 2002. At the time, Pearl was station in Bombay, India, serving as the South Asia Bureau Chief for the Wall Street Journal.

A videotape was released February 23, 2002 shows the beheading of Daniel Pearl. In July 2002, Ahmed Omar Saeed Sheikh, a British national of Pakistani origin, was sentenced to death by hanging for Pearl's abduction and murder. Five years later, in March 2007, al-Qaeda member Khalid Sheikh Mohammed, prisoner at Guantanamo Bay, said that he had personally beheaded Pearl.

The story of Daniel Pearl has now become a seminar in investigative journalism at the Georgetown University School of Continuing

Studies in the U.S. The three-credit seminar led by associate dean Barbara Feinman Todd, and assisted by author and former Wall Street Journal reporter professor Asra Q. Nomani, will include both students and faculty in the search for clues to what really happened when Daniel Pearl was kidnapped and murdered in Karachi. The Daniel Pearl project and the hunt for the reporters killers, will be presented at the conference by Nomani and Ansari.

Massoud Ansari tells that part of the motivation for his investigation was the collaboration of the various jihadi-groups in Afghanistan and Pakistan

"Every murder is important to investigate, but I found this case particularly interesting because it shows a classic nexus of various Jihadi groups who worked under single umbrella in that one operation, which was ultimately taken over by Al-Qaeda in the end", Ansari says.

Daniel Pearl

South Asia Bureau chief for the Wall Street Journal, Daniel Pearl was kidnapped in Karachi, Pakistan in 2002. A videotape later showed his beheading Pearl's colleague Asra Q. Nomani heads the Daniel Pearl Project at Georgetown University School of Continuing Studies that investigates the murder.

The kidnapping and murder of the American reporter was in 2007 made into a feature movie with Angelina Jolie starring as Pearl's pregnant wife Mariane Pearl, the movie is called "A mighty heart".