1ST INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS ON FIRE IN THE EARTH SYSTEM: HUMANS AND NATURE. 3-7 NOV 2021. VALÈNCIA (SPAIN)

FES2021

ROUND TABLE WITH FILMMAKERS AND MEDIA PROFESSIONALS

NOVEMBER 4TH, 18.20 PM (CEST) ON-LINE

In this round table we talk with filmmakers and photojournalists who cover wildfires and their consequences. The session consists of short presentations in which they explain their projects and impact. The aim is to collectively reflect on the mission of audiovisual work on wildfires, and on aspects surrounding the production of their works. The session will also focus on the social impact of fire coverage and the increasing importance that media put on wildfires. We shall discuss the extent to which reporting is contributing to better public understanding and awareness of risk, and how people can activate their agency to transform wildfire realities. We will also talk about aesthetics, ethics and the media, and documentaries as tools for popular science and the spread of knowledge. Before the session, we recommend that you watch the works by the participants and the projects they have taken part in.

Enric Castelló, associate professor of Communication Studies at Universitat Rovira i Virgili, researching on wildfires and media (Coord.)

Enric Castelló is Associate Professor at the Department of Communication Studies and member of Asterisc Communication Research Group at Universitat Rovira i Virgili. He is actively engaged in research on rural studies and communication. He is now starting a new research line on media and wildfires. He was invited researcher at Glasgow Caledonian University and Loughborough University. Among his recent studies, he is coauthor jointly with Marta Montagut of Framing Forest Fires and Environmental Activism: A Storytelling Contest about Human Intervention in Nature.

Lucy Walker, filmmaker and director of *Bring your own brigade* (2021)

Lucy Walker is an Emmy winning, two-time Oscar-nominated director renowned for creating riveting, character-driven nonfiction that delivers emotionally and narratively. Her latest film *Bring your own brigade* (2021), about wildfires in California, was released theatrically by Paramount. Her previous films include *Buena Vista Social Club Adios* (2017), *The Lion's Mouth Opens* (2014), Emmy-winning *The Crash Reel* (2013), Oscar-nominated *Waste Land* (2010), Oscar-nominated double-Emmy-nominee *The Tsunami and the Cherry Blossom* (2011), *Countdown to Zero* (2010), *Blindsight* (2006), and triple-Emmy-nominated *Devil's Playground* (2002). *Ram Dass, Going Home* (2018), which Lucy Executive Produced, and *Click Bait* (2021) which Lucy produced, are currently on Netflix. For her television directing Lucy has been nominated for three Emmys. She curates TEDxVeniceBeach. She grew up in London and graduated from Oxford before winning a Fulbright to earn her MFA in Film at NYU. She also had a successful career as a DJ.

Patrick Ryan, cofounder and director of Vulcan Wildfire Management, professional image maker focussed on capturing the essence of wildfires and their management

Patrick Ryan is not only an image maker with a focus on wildfires but is also a professional wildfire manager/firefighter and executive director of Vulcan Wildfire Management. Over the years his image work has received Nominations and an Honourable Mention in the International Colour Awards. He assessed and narrated the documentary *Walking with Fire* (2019), directed by Justin Sullivan, that focussed on wildfire management in South Africa. He also narrated and created the shorts/playlist *Knysna Fires* 2017 (2017,2020) to accompany the Situational Analysis of the Knysna Fires 2017: Lesson Learned Report for the Western Cape Government. His photographic works are also available: *The Line*, *Ashes*. You can view more work on Instagram @patrickryanimages.

Josh Edelson, internationally published freelance photojournalist specialized in wildfires and natural disasters

Josh Edelson is a freelance photographer and specializes in wildfires and natural disasters. His pictures are published in the most important media and news agencies, including The Wall Street Journal, The Los Angeles Times, Associated Press, Agence France-Presse and Getty Images among others. His work on wildfires and their effects is a powerful and touching first-hand view of the climate crisis in action. Fires are one of his favorite things to cover. He is winner of the 2021 Covering Climate Now Journalism Awards in the section of Photography for his job for AFP Heart of Fire about the California wildifres in 2020. When he is not photographing wildfires or natural disasters, Edelson can be found shooting CEO headshots, corporate events, and advertising for fortune 500 companies throughout California and beyond.

Eduard Plana, forest engineer and co-author of forest fire guidelines for journalists

Eduard Plana is a forest engineer and Msc. in Wildfires Management and is heading the Forest Policy and Risk Governance department at the Forest Sciences and Technology Centre of Catalonia. He approaches wildfire risk management from an integrated and inclusive perspective, where risk awareness and culture, planning and governance, and socioeconomic and environmental dimensions area cross-linked. He is co-author of a document with guidelines for communicators and journalists covering wildfires and booklet on myths and facts about wildfires in the Mediterranean. He has been interviewed in several media programs leaded several EU R+D project in the field of civil protection, with a specific focus on the changing impacts of natural hazards to society in a climate change context.