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contributors

bernard bastien works as a professional software designer and has always been interested in electronic music, radio communication, journalism, and photography. After ten years of sporadic and unsatisfying photography, the planets aligned for him the day the Summit of the Americas moved into his backyard, in Québec City, in April 2001. There, he found great images to capture, new ideas, humanism, talented people, and true dreams for a better world. In meeting passionate photographers, he realized photography's potential for accomplishing its contemplative nature and its sense of witnessing. The Summit made him discover the Indymedia network and many organizations involved in the promotion of alternative systems through popular education and mobilization. He joined the first to help with the second. See his web site at www.neonyme.net

frédéric dubois is a media activist and independent journalist. He holds a Bachelors of Commerce from McGill University and a Masters in Communications from Université du Québec à Montréal. Frédéric has spent many months off-the-beaten-track, living, traveling, and writing in the Americas, Europe, and India. A backpacker since childhood, Frédéric continues to cross borders in pursuit of grassroots accounts and hidden stories. He has taken part in several media projects such as CMAQ (Québec Indymedia) and wrote his thesis on autonomous media and the internet.

fanchon esquieu studied Applied Arts in Paris and further pursued landscape architecture. In 2001, she discovered Montréal and decided to let down an anchor. She is fascinated by the energy and colour of the city, which gives her the needed energy to translate this onto paper and canvas. Between art and landscapes, through lines and vivid colours, she communicates her vision of the world. With her drawings, she tells the story of those she meets. Between 2002 and 2004, she made illustrations for benefit concerts, alternative magazines, and CMAQ (Québec Indymedia), and organized exhibitions in gallery-bars. Some of her work can be found on the Jivaros artists' collective website. See www.jivaros.org

élise gravel completed a graphic design program in Montréal, then chose illustration as the focus of her productive career. As an illustrator, she provides services for various sectors but always makes time for social causes in line with her values. Élise has written and illustrated several children's books and hopes to produce many more in the coming years. For more info, see her website: www.elisegravel.com

dorothy kidd has worked in alternative media since the early 1970s, including: community video in Toronto, community radio in Vancouver, aboriginal radio and television with the Okalagatiget Communications Society in northern Labrador, the Inuit Broadcasting Corporation and the Wawatay Aboriginal Communications Society in northern Ontario, and feminist presses in Vancouver, Toronto, and Winnipeg.

Dorothy's overall research agenda includes mapping the historical development of a transnational communications liberation movement. Current research projects include the documentation of the use of communications by counter-publics and alternative media in San Francisco; the U.S. media reform movement, and their transnational counterparts. She is actively involved in the work of Media Alliance in San Francisco, and the international Our Media network. She teaches Media Studies at the University of San Francisco.

andrea langlois holds a BA in Women's Studies and Professional Writing from the University of Victoria, and recently finished her Masters in Media Studies at Concordia University in Montréal. Driven by a need to understand why media are imperative to social movements, she has spent the past few years studying and deconstructing the relationship between social movements and mass media. In her activist life, she has been involved in feminist and queer groups, and autonomous media projects ranging from culture jamming to Indymedia and community radio. Her favourite tools of resistance are stickers, her laptop, and her voice.

tom liacas' life as an activist began when he got involved with ADBUSTERS, eventually becoming their campaigns manager. He helped found a local culture jamming collective in Vancouver during that period. He later went to Montréal to rethink his strategy and continued to dabble in jamming while doing his MA in Communications. He has worked with friends in Slovenia to help develop the international Festival of Radical Communications. Now mellower and a new dad, he works on progressive social change projects for more benign and docile clients.

isabelle mailloux-béïque has been a volunteer and active member of CMAQ (Québec Indymedia) since 2001. Her work focuses primarily on promoting her local independent media centre as an alternative source of information and a tool to becoming the media. She also participates in the collective effort by organizing and producing information for their website. Masters candidate in Communications at Université de Montréal, she is investigating alternative communication practices. She's particularly interested in the Montréal street newspaper, L'ITINÉRAIRE, and principally in the practices of media production by street journalists. Isabelle works as a research and teacher's assistant at her university.

dawn paley is a social justice activist and writer from Ruskin, British Columbia. Many hours of her life have been happily devoted to political and grassroots organizing. In 2003, she graduated from Simon Fraser University with a Bachelor's degree in Women's Studies and First Nations' Studies. Since then, she's worked as a journalist and photographer in South Africa and Latin America, trying to bring marginalized voices to the fore through her work. At any given time, Dawn may be spotted doing the following dance moves: the windmill, the motorcycle, the scissors, or the shopping cart. She likes banana slugs, haikus, mail art, and playing ultimate Frisbee. Dawn's kept a weblog since early 2002.

chester rhoder was born in the Eastern Townships of Québec and is a farm boy at heart. He is the founder of Typo-pawsitive where he designs books and activist art from his barnyard studio. He is well known for climbing trees and running circles around the competition.

andréa schmidt lives, works, and organizes in Montréal. She participates in a number of local anti-imperialist and anti-capitalist projects and solidarity groups in a small effort to proliferate resistance to the systems of domination that organize the globe. She also sits on the board of the Institute for Anarchist Studies, and co-edits the IAS's bi-annual magazine, *PERSPECTIVES ON ANARCHIST THEORY*. Andréa reported from occupied Iraq from February to May 2004, where she visited as a delegate of the Iraq Solidarity Project. Her written dispatches are available on-line at www.en-camino.org.

scott uzelman is a PhD candidate and Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada Doctoral Fellow in the Joint Programme in Communication and Culture at York University where he is currently studying the logic of direct action in struggles for social and environmental justice. He has been involved in the media democracy movement for several years as a researcher with NewsWatch Canada at Simon Fraser University (SFU) and as a founding member of the Vancouver Chapter of the Campaign for Press and Broadcasting Freedom. In 2002, he completed a MA thesis at SFU on participatory research he conducted with fellow media activists in establishing and developing the Vancouver Independent Media Centre.

marian van der zon is a multi-disciplinary artist who delves into sound art, sound documentary, writing and spoken word performance. She has a background in Women's Studies and recently finished a Master's degree in Media Studies at Concordia University. Marian's interests are varied, but often return to an examination of voice, morality, and women's issues. Marian hosted and contributed to Victoria radio station CFUV's STIRFRY (VIPIRG) for several years, and produced pieces for Montréal's CKUT, and CBC radio in Victoria. She continues to experiment with low wattage transmitters, broadcasting through Temporary Autonomous Radio and encouraging radio karaoke. When she is not dabbling with the musical styling of Victoria basement bands Tailgate Party or Five Year Plan, she is usually found wandering the mountains of British Columbia.

david widginton is a full-time media activist and a part-time cheap labourer. He is a founding member of the Montréal-based video activist collective Les Lucioles and a volunteer member of campus/community radio station CKUT 90.3FM, where he has teched, hosted, and produced a weekly two-hour morning show. He started small-time publishing in 1998 as publisher of Cumulus Press. His BA in Geography has motivated—and was motivated by—railway travel on four continents, and has helped him never get lost longer than necessary.

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