

WAR AND ORGANIZED CRIME GONE GLOBAL

POPPY

INTERACTIVE



POPPY Interactive takes you on an eye-opening journey that reveals how drug money destabilizes entire countries, fuels global conflicts and allows a worldwide illegal economy to grow.



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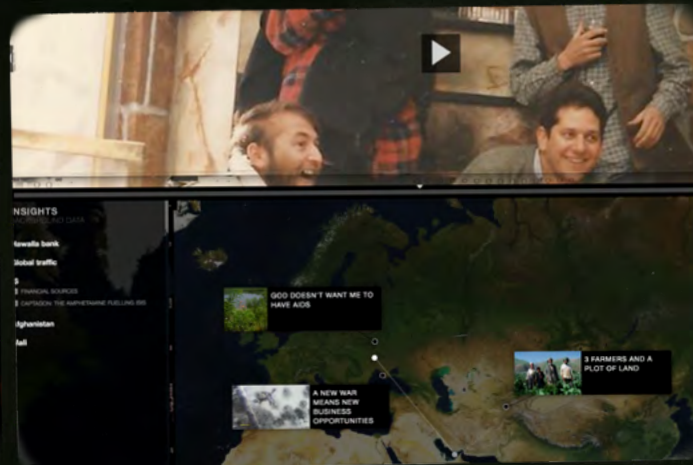
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POPPY INTERACTIVE



POPPY Interactive: War and Organized Crime Gone Global by visual storytellers Antoinette de Jong and Robert Knoth is a protracted investigation spanning over 20 years covering the global nexus of drugs, war and organized crime. It combines analysis and facts with intimate personal stories discovered on three international drug-trafficking routes.

As we find out in *POPPY Interactive*, the nexus between war and organized crime is tight and complex. The user is invited to unravel an impressive and elusive global network of insurgents and terrorists, drug cartels and other criminal organizations. We see families who grow the poppies, heroin addicts in prison in Kyrgyzstan, a downed plane full of cocaine in Mali, luxury villas in Dubai and more. It is all interconnected.

POPPY Interactive merges photo, video, radio reports and found footage on interactive maps. The interactive documentary has a layered form of nonlinear storytelling that bridges various locations and times and that blends the forms of documentary and visual art. This work follows the publication of a prestigious book (*Poppy: Trails of Afghan Heroin*) and a renowned video installation in 2012.

The interactive documentary has its world premiere at IDFA DocLab 2017 in Amsterdam. Out of ten nominees, POPPY Interactive is the only Dutch project competing for the prestigious IDFA DocLab Award for Digital Storytelling.

POPPY Interactive is a Submarine Channel production.

- Interactive documentary for web and mobile
- Includes multiple media and longform articles
- 270 minutes

Links & Downloads

poppy.submarinechannel.com

Download
HI-RES
Stills

Poppy introduction video and short videos for social media

Intro <i>vimeo</i>	Drug trafficking <i>vimeo</i>	Organized crime <i>vimeo</i>	Prostitution /HIV <i>vimeo</i>	Ideological armed groups <i>vimeo</i>	Money laundering <i>vimeo</i>	Funding war <i>vimeo</i>
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POPPY Interactive: War and Organized Crime Gone Global is made possible with the support of Creative Industries Fund NL, the Netherlands Film Fund, Fonds 21, Mondriaan Fonds and the Amsterdam Fund for the Arts (AFK).



THE DIRECTORS



Antoinette de Jong: *"For many years, Afghanistan felt like a second home to Robert and myself. We loved being there, working and travelling around.*

Often, we felt powerless and angry about the plight of the Afghan people, stuck in a never-ending war driven by chronic poverty, corruption, drug trafficking and organized crime.

We see how the process of globalisation has allowed the very same forces that are driving the fragmentation of Afghanistan to replicate elsewhere in ever more violent ways. They have become a law unto themselves and are rolling through today's globalised world like an avalanche.

With the attacks in Paris, London and Brussels that avalanche has reached our own doorstep.

POPPY Interactive explores how many of the events we have witnessed are related in surprising ways. We invite you to join us on a journey along three interconnected routes retracing our travels and discoveries of the past decades in Afghanistan, Kosovo, Somalia, Dubai and many other places across the world."

Antoinette de Jong (Tilburg, 1964) and Robert Knoth (Rotterdam, 1963) are visual storytellers whose work has embraced photography, video, in-depth journalism, radio, installations and book projects. In their highly personal work they aim to show the layered complexity of various social, economic and political issues and the effects of those issues on ordinary people.

They have reported in some of the world's main conflict and post-conflict areas. Antoinette lived and worked in Afghanistan during the 1990s under the Taliban regime. Robert has covered Afghanistan, the war in the former Yugoslavia and the civil wars in Angola, Somalia and Sierra Leone.

Nominations for the book *Poppy: Trails of Afghan Heroin* include: The Canon Award for most innovative multimedia documentary project, the Deutscher Fotobuchpreis and the Dutch Documentary Award: (Finalist). Exhibitions of *POPPY* include: Tokyo Photographic Art Museum, C/O Berlin, Museum of Modern Art in Luxembourg and Museum of Modern Art in Amsterdam.

THE PRESS OVER POPPY INTERACTIVE



The following article appeared on 15 November 2017 in the cultural supplement de Verdieping from the Dutch newspaper Trouw: “Hoe de oorlog in Afghanistan heroïnehandel alle ruimte geeft” by Arjen van der Ziel.

Read the full article (In Dutch): <https://www.trouw.nl/samenleving/hoe-de-oorlog-in-afghanistan-heroïnehandel-alle-ruimte-geeft~a59787d9/>



ABOUT SUBMARINE CHANNEL



Submarine Channel explores the narrative possibilities of new and emerging genres such as the interactive documentary, the interactive graphic novel, transmedia storytelling and virtual reality. The channel aims at creating impact with its productions and to distribute its new-found knowledge to international audiences.

Notable projects include the transmedia documentary Last Hijack Interactive (Emmy Award, Best Digital Fiction, 2015), Ashes to Ashes VR (Gouden Kalf nomination 2017) and the multiple-award-winning interactive documentary Refugee Republic (2015).

Submarine Channel is part of the award-winning production outfit Submarine, founded in 2000 by Femke Wolting and Bruno Felix. Submarine Channel is made possible with the financial support of Stimuleringsfonds Creatieve Industrie (the Creative Industries Fund NL) and Kunstenplan Amsterdam (Arts and Culture Memorandum).

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Sheffield International Documentary Festival

Many different people have cooperated in this project and have supported and encouraged us. We cannot thank them enough. In our research we are indebted to many journalists and scholars who have published on Afghanistan, South and Central Asia, Russia and the Balkans.

Over the years, scores of people agreed to meet us; they talked with us for hours, sharing information and often trusting us with painful details of their lives. During our travels we have been lucky to find companionship, friendship and heartwarming hospitality.

In memory of

Abdi Farah, Sharon Herbaugh, Mirwais Jalil, Tom Little,
Natasha Singh, Adri Verzijl

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