

Delve Deeper into *Reportero*

A film by Bernardo Ruiz

This resource list, compiled by Gina Blume of Monroe Township Public Library, provides a range of perspectives on the issues raised by the POV documentary *Reportero*.

Reportero follows a veteran reporter and his colleagues at *Zeta*, a Tijuana-based independent newsweekly, as they stubbornly ply their trade in one of the deadliest places in the world for members of the media. In Mexico, more than 50 journalists have been slain or have vanished since December 2006, when President Felipe Calderón came to power and launched a government offensive against the country's powerful drug cartels and organized crime. As the drug war intensifies and the risks to journalists become greater, will the free press be silenced?

ADULT NONFICTION

Abbott, Susan, and Monroe E. Price and Libby Morgan. *Measures of Press Freedom and Media Contributions to Development.* New York: Peter Lang Publishing, 2011. Evaluates press freedom indices, such as those administered by Freedom House, IREX, and Reporters Without Borders.

Bailey, John, ed., and Roy Goodson, ed. *Organized Crime and Democratic Governability: Mexico and the U.S.-Mexican Borderlands.* Pittsburgh: University of Pittsburgh Press, 2001. A look at the instability in the U.S.-Mexican borderlands and the economic and financial reasons behind the interests on both sides.

Cook, Timothy E. *Governing With the News: The News Media as a Political Institution.* Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2005. Cook argues that the media is a political institution integral to the day-to-day operations of the three branches of our government.

Gibler, John. *To Die in Mexico: Dispatches from Inside the Drug War.* San Francisco: City Lights Publishers, 2011. Combining on-the-ground reporting and in-depth discussions with people on the frontlines of Mexico's drug war, *To Die in Mexico* tells behind-the-scenes stories that address the causes and consequences of Mexico's multibillion dollar drug trafficking business.

Grillo, Ioan. *El Narco: Inside Mexico's Criminal Insurgency.* New York: Bloomsbury Press, 2011. A sobering account of how Mexican cartels have transformed into a criminal insurgency that threatens the nation's democracy and reaches across the border into the United States.

Hughes, Sallie. *Newsrooms in Conflict: Journalism and the Democratization of Mexico.* Pittsburgh: University of Pittsburgh Press, 2006. Hughes explores the transformation of authoritarian media in democratic Mexico.

Langton, Jerry. *Gangland: The Rise of the Mexican Drug Cartels from El Paso to Vancouver.* Hoboken: Wiley, 2011. Journalist Jerry Langton surveys the origins, evolution, and rise of Mexican drug cartels, and more than four decades of failed narcotics policies in North America.

Lawson, Chappell. *Building the Fourth Estate: Democratization and the Rise of a Free Press in Mexico.* Berkeley: University of California Press, 2002. Lawson examines the challenging transition from state-run media to free press as Mexico democratized in the 1990's.

Orme, Jr., William A. *A Culture of Collusion: An Inside Look at the Mexican Press.* Miami: North-South Center Press, 1996. Orme reveals a complex relationship between Mexico's press and its dependency on government support that often involves overt subsidies, payoffs and news-as-advertising budgets.

Wolfsfeld, Gadi. *Making Sense of Media and Politics: Five Principles in Political Communication.* London: Routledge, 2011. An examination of the inter-relationship between media and politics.

ADULT FICTION

JaQuavis, and Ashley. *The Cartel.* Deer Park: Urban Books, 2008. A fictional story of a drug cartel that controls a majority of the cocaine imported through the Port of Miami.

Winslow, Don. *Savages: A Novel.* New York: Simon & Schuster, 2010. The story of two Americans operating a lucrative marijuana business that comes up against a dangerous Mexican drug cartel.

