

## MICHELE MITCHELL



Michele Mitchell is an award-winning filmmaker, journalist and author known for her political and war crimes investigative work.

She is best known as the critically acclaimed co-director, writer and producer of the feature documentary *The Uncondemned* (2016). Crowd funded by over 8,000 donors worldwide over a three-year production, the innovative film created a unique engagement platform with high-content events that aimed not just to excite potential audiences but also inspire them to true social change. *The Uncondemned* debuted at the United Nations in front of an audience of 700 and went on to a 40-city US theatrical release, universal critical acclaim, and thousands of screenings worldwide varying from red-carpet premieres in capital cities to mobile cinemas in refugee camps. Measurable impact includes military and legal policy in Sweden and the US, where the military incorporated it into officer training programs and military academy curriculums. It has been translated into multiple languages.

Her first documentary “*Haiti: Where Did the Money Go?*” (2012) aired over 1,100 times on PBS and won the national Edward R Murrow Award for Best Television Documentary, the Gracie Award for Best Investigative Documentary, the CINE Special Jury Award for Best Investigative Feature and the CINE Golden Eagle for Investigative Feature, among other honors. The documentary had over 200 screenings at the US Congress, the United Nations Association, the Haitian Embassy in Washington, the Frontline Club, Princeton, University of London, the UC campuses, and more throughout the US, UK and Canada and led to policy changes at USAID.

She began her broadcast career as the political anchor on CNN Headline News, covering the presidential election in 2000 and then focusing on the political implications of the war on terror. She became the investigative correspondent for “NOW with Bill Moyers” (PBS) in 2004, where her long-form stories focused on corruption, US elections,

and domestic and international social justice. She won a Gracie Award, a Front Page Award and an honorary citation at the Overseas Press Awards.

In 2006, she co-founded Film at 11 — tagline: “Responsibly Rogue.” The Brooklyn-based company experimented with multi-platform storytelling with a propensity for action. To that end, Michele produced the short documentary “Reporting for Duty,” about Israeli reservists in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Lebanon War, which aired on PBS and on the Internet to a total audience of 10 million. And, in January 2011, she spearheaded Film at 11’s special web series on Haiti. This series became the basis of her first documentary.

A graduate of Northwestern University’s Medill School of Journalism, Michele started her career on Capitol Hill, where (at the time) she was the youngest congressional communications director, for Rep. Pete Geren (D-TX), who went on to become the Secretary of the Army for both President Bush and President Obama. She is the author of three books: *A New Kind of Party Animal: How the Young Are Changing Politics as Usual* (Simon&Schuster); and the regional bestselling novels *The Latest Bombshell* (Holt/Plume) and *Our Girl in Washington* (Plume).

She has reported extensively from most of the 50 states, as well as Afghanistan, India, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Jordan, West Bank, Israel, Lebanon and Libya. Her op-eds have been published in the *New York Times*, *Los Angeles Times*, *Washington Post*, *Boston Globe*, among others. She also wrote the “Letter from New York” for *GQ Italia*.

A frequent public speaker on politics and human rights, her prominent speeches include a TEDx (“What’s Rape’s Brand?”) and the United Nations Association (“Role of Media”). She previously served multiple terms on the board of the Authors Guild and currently sits on the board of BYKids. She was a 2018 Ochberg Fellow at Columbia University and is a visiting scholar at Texas Christian University.

She is currently working on an ambitious multi-platform production called “The Conversations” which includes a documentary series, podcast, electronic newsletter and nationwide dinner series.