BEHROUZ BOOCHANI BIO:

Behrouz Boochani (via video) graduated from Tarbiat Moallem University and Tarbiat Modares University, both in Tehran; he holds a Masters degree in political science, political geography and geopolitics. He is a Kurdish-Iranian writer, journalist, scholar, cultural advocate, filmmaker and human rights defender currently incarcerated by the Australian government on the Manus Island (Papua New Guinea). Boochani is co-director (with Arash Kamali Sarvestani) of the 2017 feature-length film *Chauka, Please Tell Us The Time*; collaborator on Nazanin Sahamizadeh’s play *Manus*; and author of *No Friend but the Mountains: Writing From Manus Prison* (Pan Macmillan-Picador 2018), the winner of the 2019 Victorian Premier’s Prize for Literature and the Prize for Non-Fiction. He has been the recipient of multiple awards including the Anna Politkovskaya investigative journalism award and the Amnesty International Award for Writing for his work in documenting Australia’s offshore detention regime.