

**Blase Bonpane on WORLD FOCUS,
Haskell Wexler and Daryl Hannah
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Hello, this is Blase Bonpane with World Focus coming to you from KPFK/ Los Angeles. We are podcast and available 24/7 on kpfk.org where we're heard internationally.

I'm privileged today to have some very special guests. Haskell Wexler is the only cinematographer with a star on Hollywood Boulevard. He is probably the most famous cinematographer on the planet. He is the winner of four Academy Awards, two for documentaries and two for dramatic films. The documentaries are "The Living City" and "Interviews with My-Lai Veterans." The dramatic films are "Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?" and "Bound for Glory."

In addition to this amazing history, one of Haskell Wexler's films is a must-study for film students around the world. That of course, is "Medium Cool" which takes us to the Chicago Democratic Convention in 1968. John Casales, that's Robert Forster, is a television news cameraman who finds out that his station has been providing the stories and information gathered by the news journalists to the FBI and he's enraged. The TV station then invents a reason to fire him. Does that sound familiar? Yes, there were whistle-blowers in 1968 as well. After the bloodshed of that Democratic Convention, a congressional investigation concluded that the attack was a Chicago police riot based on massive evidence that the police moved with violence on a primarily legal demonstration. But, of course my favorite film of Haskell Wexler's is "Latino" which he made about the mercenary war in Nicaragua funded by the Iran-Contra scandal. The use of mercenaries became so favored in the United States policy that we often find more mercenary contractors fighting our wars than members of the Armed forces.

And now Haskell Wexler has made a new documentary. This time it's about the great NATO meeting in Chicago in May of 2012. It is called "Four Days in Chicago."

And friends, this is only the beginning. Joining Haskell today is his niece, Daryl Hannah. We might say that Daryl needs no introduction regarding her endless film credits but I want to remind you of her many arrests, as well. Daryl was arrested in front of the White House this year for protesting the XL Pipeline. She was arrested various other times trying to stop environmental disaster. She's been a member of the famous Sea Shepherd crew as part of Operation Musashi. She was arrested with supporters of the urban farm in Los Angeles. She was arrested protesting mountain top removal in southwestern West Virginia. She walked together with those on horse and bikes from the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation to the Rosebud Reservation to oppose the Keystone oil pipeline.

For me, this is a great occasion and I'd like to welcome both Haskell Wexler and Daryl Hannah. Thank you both for being here.

Haskell: Thank you, Blase. And you know you said you liked my film "Latino." I would not have made that film without being with you in Nicaragua and understanding what was being done and not reported in the American press.

Blase: Well thanks so much because what you did was reflect the actual Contra war, what it was, what it was doing. It was hard to watch but we were watching once again, a truth-teller telling the truth with art which is what Aristotle called "the splendor of truth." Haskell, why did you go to Chicago last May? What did you have in mind?

Haskell: Well, I had in mind that my name was in the Chicago newspapers and the mayor of Chicago said that "this is not going to be 1968 when Occupy comes to object to NATO" and all the austerity that our war making makes. And he said that this time the city will be protected from the invasion of these people. And since they mentioned my name and they

mentioned “Medium Cool” I decided that I’d better go home. And so I went home with a camera and friends from California who were Chicagoans who were filmmakers, Andy Davis and Mike Gray, and help from a lot of people, young people mostly in Chicago who knew cameras.

Blase: Well that is wonderful. Mike Gray did that great film about nuclear power, didn’t he?

Haskell: Yes, “China Syndrome.” And he’s done a lot of great documentaries, as well.

Blase: I never saw so many police per people as in your documentary “Four Days in Chicago.” They had an army out there.

Haskell: Well, the city was under siege. They closed down streets. TV put fear in the people that they were going to be invaded by some strange group called “Occupiers.” Even friends of the family who are very sensible living in the apartment buildings hired security guards to walk up and down in front of their buildings with guns on them, just in case, for their protection. So it really was a siege. And then, of course, when the Occupiers came in they had classes in nonviolence. There were big discussions of nonviolence and how to deal with any amongst them who don’t – how to isolate them and how to present their views. Even the anarchists, I heard some of them talking and saying, “The police are not your enemy. They’re just doing their job and if you act violently they win.” And I thought that was a very important part of the Occupy NATO message.

Blase: Well I think the Occupy movement did a great service by its structure of calling upon everyone to participate and its dedication to nonviolence. Some people were there – you were there with Melvin Ricky McClain who was with United Electric. We have a clip here of him speaking about the “American dream.”

Haskell: Melvin had a t-shirt on that said the words “American dream” so in the film I ask him what about that? And I remember what he said and I think you have a clip. What does he say?

Audio clip from film- please check out “Four Days in Chicago” website for video clips - <http://www.fourdaysinchicago.com/video.html>

Haskell: I see your shirt says you have a dream. What is that dream?

Melvin: I had a dream but Bank of America stole it. I saw that on a sign and I thought that was really nice. But I’m just curious because that wasn’t always the way things were done, correct?

Haskell: The American dream is to have a car, to have a house, to go to school, get a good job, be able to go to a ballgame, have vacation time, and a little life! And that shouldn’t be a dream.

Melvin: It really shouldn’t. I mean, if I wanted to go skiing in the Alps – that should be a dream. Getting up to go to work in the morning, putting my kids through school, being able to drive to work, to come home and eat in my house, that should not be a dream. To go to a doctor when I’m sick, that should not be a dream.

Haskell: So you’re asking what screwed up? Is that what you’re asking?

Melvin: Exactly! What happened?

Blase: Haskell, the beautiful thing about that demonstration was the incredible joy that was in all of those people. You could hear it in their speaking. You could hear it in the sense of humor that they had and that they knew what NATO was about. This horrible international military force that has made a global presence of our military around the planet. So we’re now a planetary military but instead of bemoaning that, they celebrated the fact that they were opposing that.

Haskell: That's particularly clear with the thousands of nurses who came from all over the country and even some from outside of the country who represented life – taking care of people's help and the cuts that are happening in healthcare going toward the military and other "non-life" things, going toward death, the extremes. And how they dealt with this was exactly right because they celebrated themselves and what they stand for and they know that most people would feel and believe the same way but because of the media distortion or black-outs or things don't exist unless it's on commercial media. And in Chicago what expressed what those nurses were talking about was not heard anywhere else in the country.

Blase: Our theme song for this program is "Fear Fearing Fear" which was written by my son and fear is the force that holds together corrupt governments, people afraid to think, afraid to speak, and the fact of people coming out now on the street, both in Chicago in '68 and also now, as never before, is a sign that the love of truth is there and the people crave truth, a sense that the truth will make you free. And we have at present, David Swanson who put this all together in a book called "War is a Lie" and in that book he states and he demonstrates historically, "Wars are started by one set of lies. They're maintained by a second set of lies. And they're ended by a third set of lies." So maybe we could hear some words from David Swanson at this demonstration, "Four Days in Chicago," May, 2012, new documentary by Haskell Wexler.

Audio clip from film

Medea Benjamin: Every time the US drops a Hellfire missile on a family, on a compound, on a car, we are creating more enemies than we are killing. We have to speak up against the killing of so many innocent people and since our media won't cover this issue it's up to us to cover this issue.

David Swanson: You don't have to check out every war lie. You know, in advance, that a case made for war is made with lies. Even if we don't get all the information until decades later, you know that the fundamental underlying questions have been framed dishonestly.

Haskell: You know, Blase, it's interesting – he talks about knowing recent history. Everybody knows that we were consciously lied into Iraq. Leaders of our country didn't just make a mistake or a misjudgment, they calculatedly insulted the American people with their lies, causing thousands and thousands of death and destroying the ancient city of Baghdad. And yet our history does not record that. It does not say that.

Blase: The sad thing, Haskell, is that after each of these horrendous conflicts, we hear that there was a tragic mistake. Well, I'm sorry, it wasn't a tragic mistake. It was done intentionally and three million people did not survive in Indochina and we lost that war. And in the wake of that war, we entered into a Central American war, 200,000 killed in Guatemala. Your film documenting 40,000 killed in Nicaragua. 80,000 killed in El Salvador. And who is the government of El Salvador today? The FMLN. Who is the government of Nicaragua today? The FSLN. Apparently, we lost those conflicts as well. And then the disastrous attack on Panama, the Christmas attack of 1989. Absolutely unacceptable to kidnap Mr. Noriega. And that led to almost immediately 88,000 tons of bombs being dropped on Baghdad in January of 1991 and that war has continued ever since 1991 through old Bush through Clinton into young Bush and into today. The Iraqis are fighting each other because the Sunnis who were in power were overthrown by the Shias who were out of power. Now the Shias are in power and the Sunnis are calling them "traitors" and that Sunni-Shia conflict is going on throughout the Arab world. We have not "won" anything and maybe it's better that we didn't win anything because it's not an achievement to destroy these countries.

Haskell: Blase, what you say depresses me. It doesn't depress me because what you say is not the truth. It's how we are kept from the truth and intimately kept from the truth. And that's why I think that those of us in the media, for example – I make films, Daryl puts her body on the line. We have to figure out how to break the rewriting of history daily. Obama came in saying that he was for change. But you can't have change unless you identify what you're changing from and he never has and until he has we're doomed to more of what's been going on.

Blase: It's so tragic that President Jimmy Carter just announced that we do not have a functional democracy. That's quite a statement coming from, perhaps our greatest ex-President. He reminds me of John Quincy Adams who, after he was President, went back into the Congress to denounce slavery. And Jimmy has been on the job. He hasn't spent the rest of his life playing golf. He's been out there internationally as a message spokesperson for peace and he said "We do not have a functional democracy." I want to give a brief blurb here on your film. It says that

Haskell Wexler takes a personal look at Chicago over four days in May 2012 - four days filled with politics, protest and police. The Occupy movement, the National Nurses Union, Iraq Veterans Against the War, Code Pink and others converged on Chicago to tell President Obama and Mayor Emanuel to stop the insane spending on wars around the world, and bring the money home for housing, schools and healthcare. Police were brought in from other states, and Mayor "1%" Emanuel spent \$27 million to secure the city against the "threat" of citizens speaking out. It was a huge event in Chicago, but the national press wouldn't cover it; hardly anyone outside the city even knew what was happening. All the American media fed the people were sensationalized images of a menacing Black Bloc; they suppressed stories of intelligent Americans exercising their constitutional right to protest. Emanuel's decision to militarize the city to protect the war-makers of NATO raised a key question: is the government of the people, by the people, and for the people - or is it of, by, and for the 1%?

Haskell: Blase, early on you talked about fear and how fear controls us. The Chicago situation could not have happened if the factor of fear was not there. The mayor said that “are protecting our city” – it’s “our city” and the outsiders, what they stand for and who they are, could become anonymous. And as long as you can have an “anonymous” threat to you and you can have people in authority who say that “we will protect you from that fear and we know who those other people are and we know that they have bad intentions so we can even deal with pre-emption of violence that they say that they’re opposing by destroying them either with drones or with heavy-duty militarized police when they raise their head in complaint.” That’s the thing. It’s the only reason they can do it. It’s the only reason they can scare people in the apartment buildings in Chicago to hire security people with guns because the system says that it’s something to be feared and we’ll protect you.

Blase: Erich Fromm was just totally preoccupied by the horrors of the Holocaust and the Third Reich and he wrote the book “Fear of Freedom” and he realized that fear can create such a paralysis that people stop thinking and when someone comes in and takes them away we’re apt to be terrorized into saying, “Well, he wouldn’t have been arrested if he wasn’t guilty” and start defending the police state as if it were necessary. And we saw this, of course, in Chile and throughout the Americas. Brazil was under a military government. Argentina had a dirty war. And now these countries are giving us an example and the most vicious situation of all was Guatemala and now they have indicted a former President and convicted him of terrorism and convicted him of massacring the Ixil people. It’s true that another court came in and put that on hold but they were the first country in Latin America to indict a President in that fashion. And we have to do the same. We can’t honor former war criminals. We just can’t do that or we’ll keep repeating this disaster. Talk about fear. My fear today is that we’re deteriorating so fast and that the equivalent of a military coup has taken place and with the continuing ignorance and violence, we’re going headlong into a nuclear conflict. And nothing’s going to stop it unless we have a realignment of our people. That doesn’t mean going from Democrat to Republican. That has nothing to do with it. A realignment means that people together rethink how they’re governed, rethinking and restructuring their government so that the military is not

de facto in charge. Jesus said, "Where your treasure is there your heart will be." Well our heart, obviously, and our treasure is in military spending because that's what we do with most of it. We've got a 1.5 trillion dollar job ready for one fighter plane which probably would have been better if it was never built. So we are freaking out and we're going headlong into, probably, a nuclear war and we have to draw the line and say we demand a realignment in the name of this planet which is in grave danger. And somebody sitting next to you knows all about that.

Daryl, why do you get arrested so often?

Daryl: Well, I don't want to.

Blase: I'm so shocked and I just thought that people like you didn't get arrested. This year you were in front of the White House. You were complaining about that pipeline. What's wrong with that pipeline?

Daryl: You know it's interesting because I'm learning so much just by sitting here listening to you both and I remember in the early '80's going down to Central America to visit Haskell on the set of "Latino" and to go down and sort of do a fact-finding mission and learn about what was happening in that region during the Iran-Contra time right before the hearings and that was an eye-opener for me. I'd already started acting and learning that, of course, the things that I had said in my interviews about my movies and stuff weren't really reported accurately so I knew that there was a disconnect between reality and the media's reporting but when I got to Nicaragua, for example, and I saw the blatant lies that were being reported in the American newspapers contrasted with what was actually happening on the ground in front of my very

eyes, it really changed the world for me. It made me really realize that I couldn't rely upon the mass media to inform to me about the reality and had to start looking into things myself.

Blase: It's so important for you and so many others, literally hundreds of thousands, went down to see the war and they came back and they talked in their churches and they wrote Op-ed pieces and they did reports on the media. And I think that helped us to avoid seeing a terrible invasion in spite of the fact that we did see the Contra war which took so many lives. It was just an unbearable situation. And then we got the CIA reports on the instructions to the Contras which were to go after the liberation theologians, go after the progressive religious people, go after the social workers. They didn't say anything about fighting the military. They just told them to fight the people. And that was a terrible tragedy, and for all of us it was unforgettable. To realize that if we air things that the President was saying - President Reagan declared a state of emergency because of Nicaragua, a country that had one elevator.

Haskell: And the moral equivalent of our Founding Fathers. But you know, Blase, if most people hear us talking like that they say "That's ok, that's history" but what we have to do is we have to see how history is with us and how history is being denied and reshaped and for example, when Daryl's out there complaining about what's being done to our environment, that's part of the movement that really is the essence of the whole thing. We are all on this planet together. We are all human beings. It's not this political philosophy or this military force or this race. And once you have racism or the otherism or the outsider, you can generate the fear so that her work in talking about what avaricious business does to people, to life, is educative and called political. But actually it's human and that's why I'm glad that she happens to be here with us because I'm so proud of her.

Blase: Well, we have reason to be proud because we have a religion which is known as American Exceptionalism and we somehow are socialized to believe that what our country does is the will of Jesus. I just don't know what's going on here but it's a terrible aberration in religion as I see it. That if we have drones killing innocent people, we have signature drones killing innocent people – we have no idea who they are. We just want to give them a message. And we're supposed to accept that? I'm sorry we can't. We don't have to abide by a religion of state which tells us that the foreign policy of the United States is the will of God. It's just not.

Haskell: Well, you know Trayvon Martin. He's the "other." He's the subject of the drone. In other words, when they say a black man walking at 7:00 at night, underneath it you know that the man who's following him in the car, knows that he's potentially "not for any good." And that's the same policy that's a part of our foreign policy as well. The basis for a lot of war is racism, categorically identifying the enemy and not going up – who they are and what they are and who they are and what makes you the world's policeman.

Blase: Haskell, the foreign policy is becoming the domestic policy. It's such a tragedy that 25% of the prisoners of the world are in the United States of America. We have 4% of the world's people. This is unacceptable. Now those prisoners are on strike in communion with the prisoners in Guantanamo who are on strike to the death. And we have people in CodePink and other organizations fasting with them at this time. Some of them have really gotten me angry. This dear woman that fasted 57 days, one of the founders of CodePink. I was writing to her and saying to eat something because we don't want you to get sick. The point is that our foreign policy is coming home. We have 80,000 prisoners in solitary confinement which has been defined as a form of torture. That has to stop.

Daryl: I think that this is all a reflection of the corporate takeover of the world. I'm so thankful to programs like yours, to the radio and to aspects of citizen journalism on the internet for keeping me informed. But I have to say that it's so upsetting. All these things that you are talking about are so depressing and upsetting but I have to say that I've been really encouraged lately by the numbers of people who have finally reached their limit and are starting to show up out on the streets. You remember when Rodney King was beaten here in LA, things lit on fire and the city burst into flames and it was an amazing expression of the frustration that had been pent up for some long. With this Trayvon Martin verdict, every city in this country had people coming out and not only the cities, but small townspeople came out on the streets and said, "No, this is unacceptable. You can't just go gunning down people and get away with it." And I think that the uprisings in the prisons, the uprisings in Turkey, the uprisings all over the world, in Brazil, I think that's what it's going to take. I don't like going to prison but probably I'm going to have to go a few more times and I think that we all are going to have to get out there and make ourselves be heard and lay our bodies down on the line and draw a line in the sand. And say that this corporatocracy is not working for us. The military state is not working for us. We've got to get back to supporting our life support systems and each other.

Blase: I agree with you completely, Daryl, because I find the same things as I travel around. I expect people to disagree because I'm accustomed to not being agreed with and I'm finding more and more acceptance. I'm expecting them to be shocked or whatever or to say that I'm not a good American and that's not happening now. Something has changed.

Daryl: Because we're all suffering. Everyone across the board unless you're really in that tiny top percent. People are all struggling and that was eloquently said – that gentleman who was talking about that dream. A dream should be going to some exotic place and doing some magnificent thing. Not going to take care of my health if I'm sick. Not feeding my children. It

was so beautifully said and I think people are struggling and suffering on so many levels and now it's just a matter of getting back to common sense and being able to take care of our basic needs. And with 7 billion people on the planet, that's a challenge and those are the places we need to focus our energy now and not being cavalier and wasteful with our resources and our financial capital and all of these things.

Blase: Haskell, in regard to what Daryl was just saying, could you contrast the mentality in Chicago the four days in May with the mentality of 1968? What differences do you see in the situation?

Haskell: Well, you know my film in '68 was called "Medium Cool." At that time television was very new and the anti-war demonstrators knew that they wouldn't exist unless television would cover it and in "Medium Cool" you'll see a scene where police were taking cameras, still cameras, off some of them. There weren't a whole bunch of cameras around in those days. Once an NBC truck with the big video cameras went through the crowd and then left and the demonstrators were saying, "Come back, come back" because they wanted it to be certified that they existed. And now, later, the media knows how to deal with the movie. They create the movie that the city is being invaded. Actually, schools were closed in Chicago. The streets were closed. Buildings were boarded up and the fear thing was created by the media, helped by the mayor, of course. And incidentally, all Obama had to say to Rahm Emanuel is that "It's a peaceful demonstration. Don't be rough." And you saw in the film the police. These were not regular Chicago police. I talked to the real cops and they'll talk to me. But the guys came in in full battle dress with bullet-proof outfits on and it was a hundred degrees. And when they came in later on in force; I was in the back of a group leaving a certain area because we were told we could leave on a certain street and everyone went down that street to leave peacefully. And about a block and a half down the police were there stopping them. I didn't see that but

the regular cameras, the TV cameras of the stations, were stationed there on little platforms ready for the show and sure enough there was some struggle. You can see the police with their big sticks beating on some people. No one knows who said what to who but they got their show. And they had stuff to go on TV.

Blase: Friends, I'd like you to know that I'm very privileged today to be speaking to Haskell Wexler who's the only cinematographer with a star on Hollywood Boulevard. He is probably the most famous cinematographer on the planet. He is the winner of four Academy Awards, two for documentaries and two for dramatic films. We're so very happy to have him here today and we're talking about his most recent film which is "Four Days in Chicago" which was taken during the horrendous NATO International meeting in Chicago in May of 2012.

We're also reflecting on the classic film "Medium Cool" which takes us to the Chicago Democratic Convention in 1968 where a news cameraman finds out that his station has been providing the stories and information gathered by the news journalists to the FBI becomes enraged and is immediately fired by the TV station.

We're also so very, very fortunate to have with us Daryl Hannah who has been in so many films.

Haskell: Daryl listen, I know about you being arrested. But you've been all over the world, really. When you talk to people, what do you hear? Who's on the other side? Because we have to learn how to talk to them.

Daryl: That's the thing. I don't really think there is another side so much. I think that most people just want a decent life. They want to just be able to feed themselves and have a happy life. There's only a small percentage of people who actually have really sinister

intentions. But, in terms of every specific case, once again, it's just people who've been told that if, for example, they stop the practice of mountain-top removal, your town is going to go away and your jobs are going to go away. Well, guess what? Those towns and those jobs are going away because of mountain-top removal. And then they start experiencing that and guess what? They come over and they start protesting with the people who are trying to stop it. And that happens again and again because people are the same. We have the same DNA. We have the same blood running through our veins and we need the same fresh water and all these things and unfortunately, these systems that don't promote life – wars and destructive mining practices and extreme energy extraction policies and all these things, are not good for any of us. So, there isn't another side.

Blase: You know the system of public relations and advertising was designed to get people to do what they don't want to do. In other words going against their very interests. That's what happens. When Chris Hedges wrote his book about mountain-top removal and the other problems, the people around there were saying, "You're taking away our jobs" and he was trying to get across to them "I'm not here to take away your job. I'm here to save the lives of the children trying to live with this rotten water and terrible air that has been created." So PR is out there working directly against it. That's what happens on Pacifica, our radio network here. Sometimes people will call in and say "Why don't you get the other side?" and I tell them, "Please, turn on your news at 6:00. That is the other side." That is the side of 1% who has the power. We are the 99% so we're giving you the other side and if you want to hear the other side just listen to commercial news. So that's the situation we're in. The response to your film "Medium Cool" just doesn't go away. It continues because of the combination of a dramatic film together with documentary coverage of a disastrous police riot.

Haskell: There's a thing with Criterion release of the combination of "Medium Cool" with present day Chicago and one of the scenes is of young people in front of a poster for Robert Kennedy running for President. The cameraman in the film asks, "Why are you voting for

Kennedy?” and the young girl said, “Well, because he has long hair” and one of the other boys said, “I wish he’d look into the assassination of his brother and Oswald and the CIA.” And that’s the end of the cut. And I had Bobby Kennedy, Jr. see that scene and he made the comment, which he’s made elsewhere before, that indeed his father wanted to look into the assassination of JFK and the connections between Oswald and the CIA and other organizations but he was told by Johnson and by J. Edgar Hoover whose exact words were, “This would be very bad for the country. Don’t do it.”

Blase: Well, think about that, Haskell. John F. Kennedy was the last President to stand up against the military. In the talk he gave at American U. in June just before he was assassinated, he expressed the fact that he was going to end the Cold War. He was going to stop the arms race and prior to that, he had said, “I am going to break the CIA into a thousand pieces.” Well, he was eliminated and I think every President since got the message. It reminds me of the Presidents in Guatemala and other small dictatorships who are told by the military, “This is what you do or you’re out of here in a box.”

Haskell: When he said he believes in peace, the speech you’re talking about at the University graduation, he said, “Not a Pax Americana supported by the military.” Not a Pax Americana where we give up our rights and so forth to militarism and you can be sure that and the connection between Martin Luther King, JFK, and Robert Kennedy who also was taking an anti-war position has never been thoroughly investigated. The way the media dealt with the assassins were, and what it was all about, is still up for grabs.

Blase: Well, it’s obvious. I mean, with Dr. King, his final speech at Riverside Church, April 4th, 1967, he said “the greatest purveyor of violence on the face of the earth is my own country.” After that time, he lost the support of the President. He no longer could get the protection that he used to get and there is a diplomatic threat that maybe you’ve heard around the world and I’ve heard a few times and it is, “We don’t think we can protect you.” And he was in that situation which is a threat. There is no question about it. Now we speak of the

militarization in Chicago in May of 2012. We have a clip here talking about preparations for the NATO summit.

Audio clip from film- - please check out "Four Days in Chicago" website

<http://www.fourdaysinchicago.com>

Here we had singing nurses, Tom Morello, a lot of good music, a lot of fun, a lot of costumes, and militarized to the hilt. I guess you could smell that while you were there Haskell, right?

Haskell: Yeah, and a lot afterwards we saw the extent of provocateurs, of government agents amongst them, all kinds of Secret Service type ways of trying to disrupt and divert the peaceful demonstrators and fortunately a lot of it was uncovered by good lawyers who helped in laundering out the truth.

Blase: Well, you know Haskell, over the years we've seen a lot of flags burned and everybody in the peace movement, when a burner came in would say, "Who is that?" A guy dressed up in a costume to look like a hippie and he had a flag that was soaked in kerosene and so many times we found out it was the local police doing a show for us.

Haskell: Well, you know Blase, the big problem is the idea of patriotism when you can be stigmatized that you're not a patriot. I think that we are patriots. It's those who are lying and deceiving us who aren't patriots. In the film we talk a lot with veterans who are Iraqi veterans who talked about it, and talked about how they were deceived, about why they went and served, why they did horrible things which they wished they hadn't done and they threw their medals away. And I think that does say that we have to consider ourselves patriots and those who are willing to give up everything good that America stands for to be defended from the visible other are less than patriotic.

Blase: What we need, I believe, is humanity and here we have James Foley speaking in Chicago at the NATO gathering about dehumanization. Now he has disappeared into Syria. He is missing, isn't he, as a journalist?

Haskell: Yes.

Blase: This here may be some of the last words of James Foley.

I'm interested in what you said about the other, the categorization of the other, because you see it in all conflicts in wars as in El Salvador as you say here. I saw it in Libya and Syria and it's like both sides tend to paint a group as the enemy, as the other and what happens, the dehumanization process of that. And that's extremely dangerous and it happens in any war so that they can kill each other.

Haskell: Yes, and you hear the word 'dehumanization.' I mean, that is a critical word in what can lead us to do horrible things.

Daryl: So interesting that you said that because since you guys started talking about that and how you have to keep the enemy as sort of anonymous. Well, when I went out with Sea Shepherd, for example, the only way that they're allowed to put their program on the air is if the Japanese fleets remained anonymous, if they kind of just said "the whalers". They couldn't actually name the companies and the sponsors of those Japanese whaling fleets and the same thing made me think about the Occupy movement which has been continuing to do incredible work but the unfortunate moniker of "Anonymous" which they've taken online isn't maybe all that helpful ultimately because it does put people in this sort of category of it being a nebulous thing, that they could be painted as something to be feared instead of "Look, I'm your mother." "I'm your brother." "I'm your son." "I'm your neighbor." To give people a face and a name and an identity within your community rather than "an anonymous group is coming into Chicago to threaten us all." That's just not true. These were your

neighbors. These were your sisters and your cousins and your school teachers and your nurses.

Blase: Names are so important. That's why the Vietnam monument is so important. These are people that have died and with the demonstrations at the School of the Americas that Haskell knows a great deal about. He visited their leader in prison, Father Roy Bourgeois. They go for the names of every child, of every person, whose life has been taken because of the School of the Americas. We're people. We're not an anonymous force. I so agree with that because once we understand that these are human beings, then we can say, "You know, we're better than that." And I can see that rather than sending millions of troops to Iraq and Afghanistan, if we had sent a hundred diplomats saying, "We'd like to spend six months with you. We'd like to eat your food. We'd like to meet your people. And we'd also like to talk about our future relations." That would accomplish more than twenty years of massacre has accomplished and the torture that's gone with it – all of the experts agree that you get much more out of a "suspect" by having tea together than by torture. Torture is simply one other force of terrorism. That's all that it's ever been. When it was in the church with the Inquisition, it was terrorism. It was terrorism in all of the police states that we've seen. It accomplishes nothing. It has never gotten the truth out of anybody. So, we're on a very desperate course. It's not as though it's just one glitch. Since the end of World War II we have been at war. From Korea to Vietnam to Central America, Panama, over to the Middle East and now we're challenging China with the new economic program which is in direct conflict with China. Instead of sitting down and saying, "We're both big. Let's have some fun together and let's spend some time and let's decide how we can work this out." But you know, time is fading here. Daryl, you may have some last comments you'd like to make. We're so happy to have Daryl Hannah with us today.

Daryl: Well, I would love to just sit here for hours and hours listening to you guys talk because I'm learning a lot. But thank you so much for having me.

Haskell: Daryl, say something about what you learn when you're out there. What you're doing. I mean, why do some people say it's ok to run these pipes and so forth?

Daryl: I find that, like I said, if you're coming from a common sense point of view, you don't find resistance and you don't find enemies and you don't find those walls. And when you do find them it's usually coming from someone not having access to information.

Blase: Thank you so much, Daryl Hannah and Haskell Wexler for being with us today on World Focus.