THE FIFTH COLUMN

Michael Walsh
Writer of the Year 2011 / 2012

Happily Politically Incorrect

Michael Walsh
50 Selected Hot News Stories and Columns by Europe's Top Columnist
BIOGRAPHY OF A FREE THINKER

Irish author and co-writer of over 40 books, Michael Walsh is an international journalist, broadcaster, author and poet. His collection of over 500 inspiring, entertaining poems enjoys global acclaim.

Born into a literary family, his father, Patrick, was a battlefield companion of war correspondent, Ernest Hemingway. Patrick was also a lifelong friend of Sean O’Casey, Ireland’s most revered playwright. Michael's mother, Kathleen, who also mentored his writing skills, was a friend of Dolores Ibarruri, Spain's Civil War revolutionary La Pasionaria. A consummate traveler, after visiting over 60 countries he is now living in Spain. He describes himself as being of European nationality of international heart.
OTHER TITLES BY MICHAEL WALSH

Please note: Amazon Book editions of these volumes are beautifully and sumptuously illustrated. Each will make a fine and unusual gift for friends and family. There are no repeats; poetry content of each collection is different. Each volume features a little over 60 delightful compositions. The 7th in the Collection is scheduled for publication in August 2015. These book covers are illustrated on this volume’s inside back page.

POETRY TITLES

HEART TO HEART Volume One
HEART TO HEART Volume Two
HEART TO HEART Volume Three
WHISPERING HOPE
WINE THOUGHTS
ALL I ASK IS A TALL SHIP
IMMORTAL BELOVED
A SYMPHONY OF VERSE
FORTY SHADES OF VERSE
FOR THOSE WHO CANNOT SPEAK
EUROPE ARISE

NON POETRY

THE FIFTH COLUMN Volume One
THE FIFTH COLUMN Volume Two
TONI MULDOON THE DREAM SNATCHER
THE BUSINESS BOOSTER

Michael Walsh's poetry-music has been compiled by noted Italian video impresario, Carlo Gallozzi. Such is the enchantment of these exquisite poetry-video productions that the number of You Tube views quickly surpassed those of household name recording stars.

The Oldest Love Letter. Poetry by Michael Walsh
The Girl I Met in May. Poetry by Michael Walsh
My Auburn Ma Vourneen. Poetry by Michael Walsh
Ma Vourneen – (My Darling). Poetry by Michael Walsh
Michael Walsh Poetry narrated by Michael Walsh
Conservation of the world’s peoples composed and narrated by Michael Walsh
Let Us Count a Woman's Beauty. Poetry by Michael Walsh, Video by Sinead McCarthy.
Our Children Curse Us. Poetry by Michael Walsh, Video by Sinead McCarthy.

FOREWORD

In 2011 / 2012, the editorial team and owners of Europe’s largest circulation English language free newspaper, put their heads together. Who to select to receive the Euro Weekly News 'Writer of the Year' award from a team of first class writers? Their choosing Michael Walsh was a unanimous decision.

Despite many years of success as an international writer, the unassuming Michael was engaged in convivial table talk when announcement of the award was made. He was taken aback, bemused and honoured. Bearing in mind that this quality newspaper enjoys a 550,000 weekly readership it was a gratifying moment for him.

Born into a family of revolutionary literati, Michael enjoyed a head start. His writing skills were encouraged and honed by his father, Patrick. A comrade and associate of war journalist Ernest Hemingway, his father was a close friend of Ireland's revered playwright, Sean O'Casey.

The popular writer says he never realised until later on in life that of the five siblings he alone was mentored in writing by his parents. His mother, Kathleen, a radical political reformist and friend of Dolores Ibarurri, Spain's Civil War's revolutionary firebrand, constantly guided and encouraged the young writer’s verse.

A lifelong anti-war activist and revisionist historian, he fearlessly undermines the propaganda of elite mainstream media. A thorn in the side of the liberal political self-chosen ones, Michael Walsh’s writing is flavoured by sentiment unlikely to be published by a mainstream media marching in tune with American economic and foreign policy.

British and Eastern European media, American Free Press, Daily Mail, Baltic News Network, Baltic Times, Lithuania Tribune, among others, have blocked Michael’s writing and comments.

Over the years, Michael Walsh earned plaudits from those at the sharp edge of
journalism. These 50 news-story selected columns are a compilation of those published by Euro Weekly News between 2012 and 2014. Taken in sips or gulps; spiced up with pithy images and quotes, it is hoped that you will find the compilation to be enjoyable, enlightening and inspiring. Note: Only the articles and not the quotations and images were published. ~ Editorial

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YOU SAW IT IN BLACK AND WHITE

If you were one of the 2.5 million who shared the story... You've been played

Over 10,000 news articles and 2.5 million social media messages all using exactly the same phrase about Iraqis "systematically beheading children"....

All trace back to ONE source, no journalists, no eyewitnesses, no victims families...ONE guy.

Who is this source? A pro-war Christian group leader and Obama supporter from San Diego named Mark Arabo.
One hardly needs to be a visionary to prophesy what historians will make of the European Union's trade war against Russia. It is a foreign policy débâcle without peace time precedent.
The power brokers concede that sanctions on Russia is an American initiative from which only the U.S. benefits. Modern Russia, as far as Washington DC and War (sic) Street banks are concerned, “is the biggest threat to world order.” This is American-speak for Russia being a threat to U.S. world domination.
It is a mistake to think of recent events as a new Cold War. It is already a hot war that has been heating up since 1990. When Russian President Boris Yeltsin, an habitual drunkard, handed the reins of power to President Vladimir Putin, he would have little idea of the force of the genie released from the rubbed lamp.
With little fanfare the new President set about transferring his country’s natural wealth from American to Russian interests. From here on he was vilified by the Western Powers. Far worse was to come.
Having re-built the Russian economy Putin then set his own agenda; Russian interests. The growing strength of the rouble and Russian self interest converged to form the next logical step. Russian trade, in the future, would be independent of the U.S. dollar and instead based more favourably on barter and trade between national currencies such as those of China, India and Iran. The effect was to do far more damage to the American economy than any hot war possibly could. American and British economies are war economies. The U.S. and UK became more powerful and prosperous as a consequence of wars. Modern Russia denies opportunity for profitable wars and simultaneously undermines the dollar as a trading currency.
The U.S. is fighting back but cannot do so on its own. To carry out its aims the U.S.
needed to increase EU dependency on Washington and Wall Street. Its top Goldman Sachs bankers were parachuted into the parliaments and banking houses of Western Europe. American subversion of Western media is on a scale that horrifies. If you want to know who Western media's string-pullers are simply see whose interests they put the spin on.

European Union defence policy is based entirely on American finance. Washington DC instructed France not to hand over two partly Russian built Mistral Class warship carriers. The suggestion was that the EU purchase them. The €3 billion cost is calculated to be nearly double the EU defence spending budget. This is small beer to the damage being done to the EU economy and indirectly the financially well-being and security of us all. The EU economy is predicted to take a €50 billion hit in lost trade. Russia took Option B by transferring its trading interests elsewhere. Sadly, the EU does not have an Option B. Well, not the kind of option we want to trouble ourselves with. Sleep well.

JOHN SEABROOK, WRITER: “The net poses a fundamental threat not only to the authority of the government, but to all authority, because it permits people to organize, think, and influence one another without any institutional supervision whatsoever.” ~John Seabrook. American journalist at The New Yorker since 1993. Source: ‘My First Flame,’ New Yorker, 6 June 1994.

LIFE WILL BE EASIER, THEY SAID

I am of the generation that looks back with fond memories at the simplicity of life in the fifties and sixties. If you received a bill you wrote out a cheque, shoved it in the reply paid envelope and popped it in the letterbox. What has since happened?

I will tell you: They said computers would make our lives easier. We receive a €20 subscription renewal payable online. Logging on, the complexity of navigation makes progress virtually impossible. We finally reach 'pay' but our troubles are only just beginning. Our bank, in its lack of wisdom, now require online payments to be authorised by using codes printed on the back of a plastic card: Fail. Although assured our cards were kosher we now find ours had been wrongly registered. Before
a replacement card solution is arrived at a series of computer hurdles that would try the patience of a NASA scientist. Our internet service provider messes up their accounts. As a consequence an incorrect payment anomaly shows up. No, they don't sort out their problem. They need bank approved proof of our payments to satisfy them that we have indeed paid. This necessitates several time-consuming trips between the bank and the service supplier's offices.

Henry Ford was wasting his time when he said, 'if it aint broke don't fix it.' A basic can-opener was in the kitchen drawer throughout my young life. A simple device of a type used since before the Zulu Wars. This simple functional implement today is an all singing and dancing model but as useless as a walking stick with a wheel on it.

When Phileas Fogg went on his 80 Days Around the World odyssey a traveller could catch a train at Liverpool Lime Street and be in Manchester quicker than he can today. Purchasing a ticket was far easier. You simply bought it from the teller. You now have a formidable series of computerised and highly confusing procedures to negotiate. The number of illegal non-European immigrants in the UK is estimated in the millions. Although I am born and bred British I cannot take my Spanish resident Central European wife to see our family in Britain. The costs and complexities of a visa to visit this offshore European island are far too onerous. In simpler times, the RAF brought rebellious Iraq and Afghanistan to their knees by dropping £5 bombs on their £1 peasants’ huts. Today, the RAF fails to defeat these 'tribesmen' with the FGR4 Typhoon fighter that cost £17.6 billion to develop, priced at £110 million each and cost £3,875 an hour to demolish the same peasant's hut. This week, hapless Britain wash their hands of their débâcle. Talking of washing one's hands, whilst browsing in my medical centre I check out a 10 illustration diagram instructing me how to wash my hands. Yes, life will be easier they lied.

THE WEST'S PROFIT-MAKING WAR MACHINE

The Western Powers are now engaged in perpetual war. Few Britons or Americans have known a month when their country was not directly or indirectly involved in conflict. Rudyard Kipling, Britain's greatest poet, who lost his only son in World War One, was scathing: 'If any question why we died, Tell them, because our fathers lied.” Disregard Orwellian mantras such as 'The War on Terror' and similar smokescreens. Conflict is fuelled, not by idealism, but by pursuit of market share, territory and raw material. Global war is the most profitable venture of all man's pursuits. Western economies are largely based upon arms related investment, raw material acquisition and profits.

Britain's history of piracy and pillage is abysmal. Of the world's 200 plus nations, Britain has invaded all but 22 of them. There is not enough room to list the number of conflicts Britain has been involved in since 1945. The piratical record of the United States is equally grim. Since 1776, a period spanning 224 years, the U.S. has been at peace for only 21 years. Henry Labouchere, Liberal MP and journalist: “We are without exception the greatest robbers and marauders that ever existed on the face
of the globe. We are worse than other countries because we are hypocrites also, for we plunder and always pretend to do so for other peoples’ good.”

Dick Cheney, former Vice-President of the United States

The United States has over 1,000 bases spread over 153 countries. They are not there to defend our freedoms. It is said that war and arms manufacture is not only America's biggest industry; the entire U.S. economy is based on it. The U.S. spends more on arms than China, Russia, India, Saudi Arabia, France, UK, Japan and Germany combined.

Most of us prefer the comfort of our illusions to the truth, which is, one supposes, understandable. The fact remains that we no longer have government of the people for the people but government by corporates for corporates.

During 2009 and 2010 household name oil, gas and coal companies spent $347 million on political campaigns and lobbying bribes. A profitable investment. Big oil gets a 5,800% return on every dollar it spends on Congress. U.S. senators who voted to attack Syria received 83 per cent more campaign money from military contractors than lawmakers voting no.

Politician Dick Cheney has been cited as the most powerful Vice-President in American history. His arms manufacturing related companies made over $39,500,000,000 U.S. taxpayer funded dollars from the Iraq War alone.

U.S. taxpayers saw $2 trillion of their hard-earned spent on the War in Iraq. 90% of that money ended up in the bank accounts of 1% of the population. You guess which 1%. British parliament is every bit as corrupt. Only 0.7% of Britons are millionaires yet 78% of British parliamentarians and 50% of Congressmen are millionaires. If you think such wealth is salary-based you are likely to believe in fairies at the bottom of your garden. ~ ~ ~ READ MORE
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BY A CONTEMPORARY POET OF INTERNATIONAL REPUTATION

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THE POETRY OF MICHAEL WALSH

http://www.spanglefish.com/michaelwalshpoetry/
OTHER TITLES OF INTEREST

Michael (Walsh) is much more than a poet. Judged ‘Writer of the Year’ by the Euro Weekly News editorial panel, Michael’s reflections on the world, the good and the bad, are enjoyed by a readership estimated at over half a million newspaper readers. If you enjoy Michael’s style you are sure to find the ‘Fifth Column’ newspaper column collections equally engaging and inspirational. Toni Muldoon The Dream Snatcher is his exclusive biographical firsthand account of Mediterranean Spain’s most successful fraudster.

The Business Booster

For twenty years, 1988 – 2008, Michael Walsh, who had successfully retailed, and owned several businesses, was head-hunted by the Guild of Master Craftsmen, and the Federation of Master Builders. Both superlative quality assurance regulatory trade associations required a business assessment executive with the skill and integrity to assess and mentor new business members. Over those twenty years, Michael became something of a legend himself. The Business Booster, compiled during his semi-retirement, draws on those experiences. As a business guide it is unique. It is essential reading for any new or existing business. Michael Walsh is confident that by reading and acting upon the advice given, any business will break free from the herd and surge upwards and forward. The Business Booster is the best possible investment any small to medium sized business can make.

AVAILABLE AMAZON BOOKS AND AMAZON KINDLE

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