

OFFICIAL SELECTION

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TORONTO INTERNATIONAL
FILM FESTIVAL 2016

A Film by Nicholas de Pencier

BLACK CØDE

TELEFILM CANADA AND THE ROGERS GROUP OF FUNDS THROUGH THE THEATRICAL DOCUMENTARY PROGRAM AND MONGREL MEDIA PRESENT A MERCURY FILMS PRODUCTION "BLACK CODE"
BASED ON THE BOOK "BLACK CODE" BY RONALD J. DEIBERT FEATURING RONALD DEIBERT EDWARD SNOWDEN THE CITIZEN LAB MIDIA NINJA COLLECTIVE KANYAG TSERING GOLOG JIGME
TADESSE KERSMO BYTES FOR ALL WJD DHNIE AND BRUNO TELES EDITOR ERIC PEDICELLI KEY ASSISTANT EDITOR CARLIE MACFIE ORIGINAL MUSIC PHIL STRONG RE-RECORDING MIXERS MATTHEW CHAN
COLOURIST MARK KUEPER ASSOCIATE PRODUCER NADIA TAVAZZANI EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS NICHOLAS DE PENCIER DANIEL IRON PRODUCED DIRECTED AND PHOTOGRAPHED BY NICHOLAS DE PENCIER CSC
PRODUCED IN ASSOCIATION WITH SUPER CHANNEL WITH THE PARTICIPATION OF THE ONTARIO MEDIA DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION AND THE CANADIAN MEDIA FUND
AND WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF THE ONTARIO FILM AND TELEVISION TAX CREDIT AND THE CANADIAN FILM OR VIDEO PRODUCTION TAX CREDIT ©2016 BLACK CODE MEDIA INC.

TELEFILM
CANADA

ROGERS
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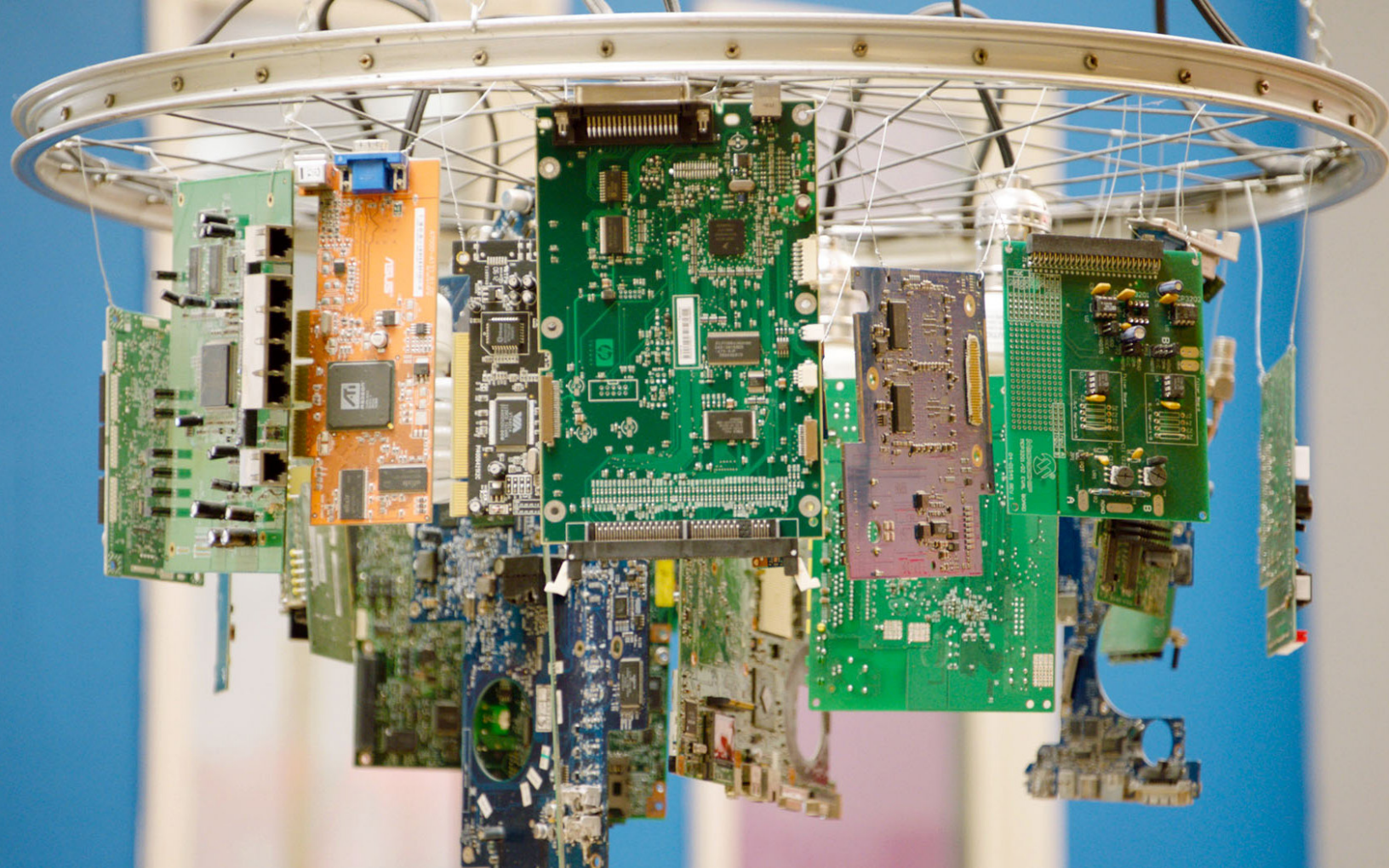
super
CHANNEL

Ontario
Production Tax Credit

Canada
Media Fund

The Canada Film or Video
Production Tax Credit
Canada

+ mercury films inc.



SYNOPSIS

BLACK CODE is a gripping account of how governments control and manipulate the internet in order to censor and monitor their citizens. With stories from exiled Tibetan monks circumventing China's surveillance apparatus, Syrian citizens tortured for Facebook posts, Brazilian activists using social media to distribute alternative news, and Pakistani online violence against women, we see firsthand the high-stakes consequences that our unprecedented level of digital communication can produce. As this battle for control of cyberspace is waged, our ideas of citizenship, privacy, and democracy will be challenged to the very core.

“BLACK CODE is a terrifying exposé on government surveillance in the digital era.”
-Scene Creek

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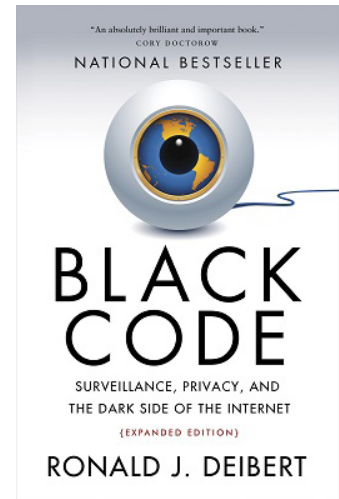


BLACK CODE BY RON DEIBERT

In *Black Code*, Ronald J. Deibert, a leading expert on digital technology, security, and human rights, lifts the lid on cyberspace and shows what's at stake for Internet users and citizens.

As cyberspace develops in unprecedented ways, powerful agents are scrambling for control. Governments and corporations are in collusion and are setting the rules of the road behind closed doors.

Drawing on the first-hand experiences of one of the most important protagonists in the battle — the Citizen Lab and its global network of frontline researchers, who have spent more than a decade cracking cyber espionage rings and uncovering attacks on citizens and NGOs worldwide — *Black Code* takes readers on a fascinating journey into the battle for cyberspace.



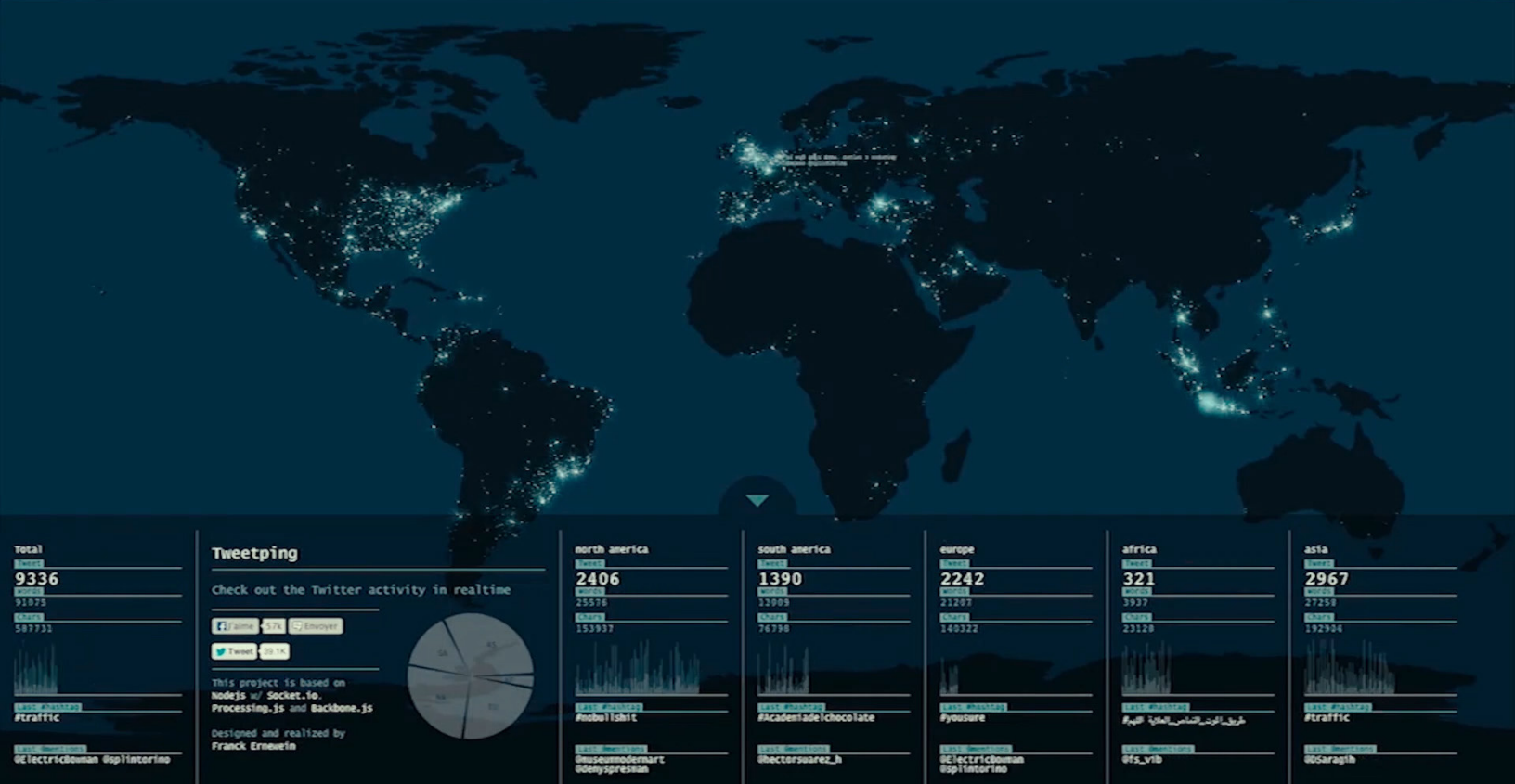
“[*Black Code*] effortlessly chronicles threats ranging from individual privacy to national security...[highlighting] the shadowy, lucrative war online, behind closed doors and in the halls of power, which threatens to control, censor, and spy on us, or worse.”
-National Post



THE CITIZEN LAB

The Citizen Lab is an interdisciplinary laboratory based at the Munk School of Global Affairs, University of Toronto, Canada focusing on advanced research and development at the intersection of Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs), human rights, and global security. Their research monitors, analyzes, and impacts the exercise of political power in cyberspace through a mixed methods approach that combines technical reconnaissance, field investigations, and data mining, analysis, and visualization. The Citizen Lab is best known for exposing “GhostNet”, a large cyber spy-ring running out of China that had hacked into high level political, economic and media locations in 103 countries around the world.





FILMING LOCATIONS

- STOCKHOLM, SWEDEN
- TORONTO, CANADA
- DHARAMSALA, INDIA
- ISLAMABAD, PAKISTAN
- RIO DE JANEIRO, BRAZIL
- LONDON, ENGLAND
- SAN FRANCISCO, USA
- AMMAN, JORDAN





BIOS

RONALD J. DEIBERT

Ronald J. Deibert is Professor of Political Science and Director of the Citizen Lab at the Munk School of Global Affairs, University of Toronto. He is a former founder and principal investigator of the OpenNet Initiative (2003-2014) and a founder of Psiphon, a world leader in providing open access to the Internet. In 2013, Ron was appointed to the Order of Ontario and awarded the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee medal, for being “among the first to recognize and take measures to mitigate growing threats to communications rights, openness and security worldwide.”



NICHOLAS DE PENCIER

Nicholas de Pencier is a Director, Producer, and Director of Photography working in documentary, performing arts, and dramatic film. He is President of Mercury Films Inc., the Toronto-based production company he shares with his partner, Jennifer Baichwal. Among the films he produced are *Manufactured Landscapes*, which won the Genie Award for best Documentary, and *Watermark* – which he also photographed. *Watermark* premiered as a Special Presentation at the Toronto and Berlin film festivals, won the Toronto Film Critics Award for Best Canadian Film, and the CSA for Best Documentary. As a cinematographer, de Pencier regularly shoots factual TV series and documentaries for the CBC, PBS, Discovery, National Geographic and History. He is currently working on a feature documentary on the Tragically Hip's iconic *Man Machine Poem* tour from the summer of 2016, and *Anthropocene*, a collaboration with Jennifer Baichwal and Edward Burtynsky which includes a feature documentary, video installation, 360VR and photogrammetry.



ERIC PEDICELLI

Eric Pedicelli is a Toronto-based filmmaker and editor working across multiple genres and formats. After graduating from Communications and Liberal Arts at Concordia University, he founded Chop Shop Media, a full-service video production company specializing in both branded content and human rights films. Chop Shop Media's clients have included: Global Affairs Canada, World Wildlife Fund, The Munk School of Global Affairs, Holt Renfrew, Royal Bank of Canada, and the Citizen Lab. As a freelance editor and director, Eric has cut feature documentaries and broadcast series, and shot in South America, Asia, and the Middle East.

