PATRICK CHAPPATTE

cartoonist

Patrick Chappatte is an editorial cartoonist for the German magazine Der Spiegel, for Le Canard Enchaîné in France, for The Boston Globe in the USA, as well as for Swiss newspapers Le Temps and NZZ am Sonntag. For 20 years, he was a cartoonist for the International Herald Tribune and The New York Times.
He is also a pioneer of graphic journalism, or comics journalism, and has developed collaborative projects promoting cartooning as a tool of dialogue all over the world.

Earlier in his career, he contributed to The New York Times Book Review and created a comic strip for Newsweek International called "Rob the Cybernaut."

Chappatte received three times (2011, 2015 and 2018) the Overseas Press Club of America's Best Cartoon Award – formerly known as the Thomas Nast Award – for his work on international affairs. He is the only non-American to have won this prize.

- official website
- Facebook page
- Twitter feed

Patrick Chappatte was born in 1967 in Pakistan from a Lebanese mother and a Swiss father. He lives and works in Geneva, after having lived in Singapour, New York, and more recently Los Angeles.

VIDEO > the Making of an Editorial Cartoon (NYTimes)

chappatte.com • graphic journalism • crossed pens • windows on death row

PATRICK CHAPPATTE
graphic journalism

Throughout his career, Chappatte has developed comics journalism in print, on the web and on TV. Stories include the war in Gaza (2009), the slums of Nairobi (2010), gang violence in Central America (2012), k-pop in South Korea (2013) and the dark side of Silicon Valley (2019). These reports were published in several newspapers; one was turned into a short animated documentary in 2011.

In 2016, with the help of his wife the journalist Anne-Frédérique Widmann, he created "Inside Death Row", a five-part graphic journalism series for The New York Times – the first time the NYT published this form of graphic journalism.
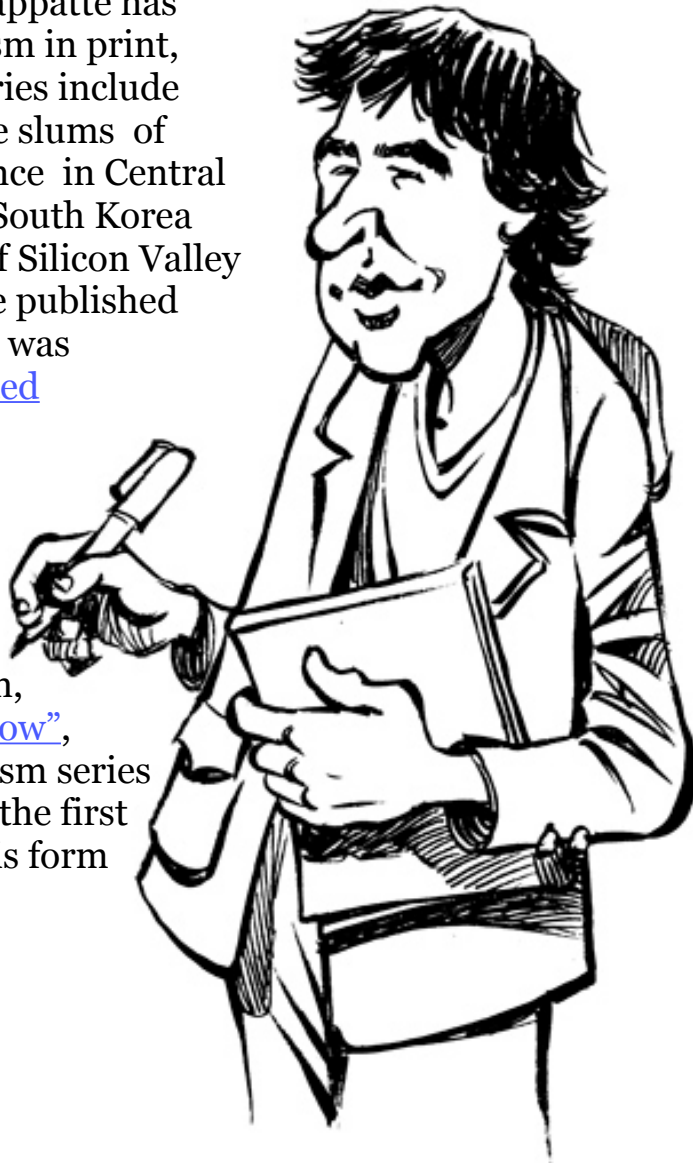
About Chappatte's graphic journalism:
• Poynter
• Storybench

Graphic journalism in general :
• The Economist

Merry Christmas. Except all those pathetic losers. So sad.

↩ 16k ⇄ 35k ♥ 42k

>TED Talk: A Free World Needs Satire (2019)

PATRICK CHAPPATTE

collaborative projects

Since 2003, Chappatte has collaborated with editorial cartoonists in conflict-ridden countries with the goal of promoting dialogue through cartooning. These projects, called "Crossed Pens" focused on Serbia, Ivory Coast, Lebanon, Kenya, Guatemala and Mexico.
He described these initiatives in a TED talk in 2010.

CROSSED PENS

CARTOONING AS A TOOL FOR DIALOGUE

Patrick is the president of Geneva-based Freedom Cartoonists Foundation (formerly Swiss foundation Cartooning for Peace), which awards an international cartoon prize in the city of Geneva every two years, in celebration of free speech. The late Kofi Annan was the honorary chair of the foundation. In September 2016, it organized a Beethoven symphony in cartoons in Geneva concert hall.

Chappatte's death penalty series, "Inside Death Row", came from a larger project with Anne-F Widmann aimed at fostering a conversation on capital punishment: "Windows on Death Row", an art exhibition bringing together works from U.S. editorial cartoonists and contributions by death row inmates, who were invited to illustrate the reality of isolation.

For this project, the couple talked to more than 20 prisoners and interviewed a dozen of them in four maximum-security prisons around the country. After its Los Angeles opening in 2015, the exhibition toured the U.S. for two years.

I AM DEAF!

PATRICK CHAPPATTE
cartoonist

End of the political cartoons
at the New York Times

Chappatte was the in-house cartoonist of the International Herald Tribune since 2001, and then The New York Times from 2013 on, until the newspaper decided to terminate all political cartoons in June 2019. The NYT decision came after it published a cartoon by Portuguese artist António that caused widespread outrage, mainly on social networks.

In reaction, Chappatte posted a text on his website that became viral overnight. He warned that political cartoons, born with democracy "are attacked when freedom is". In the following weeks, this essay was discussed in various media all over the world. He developed his ideas in a TED talk in July 2019 and published the book "This is the end - The last cartoons from The New York Times" with a foreword by Nobel laureate Joseph Stiglitz.

A selection of Chappatte interviews on the topic:
- The Guardian (UK), June 12, 2019
- NPR, June 15, 2019
- The Washington Post, June 11, 2019
- CNN, June 10, 2019