

LINDA RODRIGUEZ MCROBBIE

JOURNALIST

CONTACT

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Redhill, Surrey

EXPERTISE

Exceptional reporting and research skills

Strong communication skills in print, audio, and visual

Incisive and engaging writer

Effective interviewer

Copyediting and editing

EDUCATION

Columbia University School of Journalism

Master of Science in Journalism, 2004

Newspaper concentration. Received honours for thesis, "Sex, Drugs, and Muscles", an in-depth exploration of the world of female bodybuilding.

Davidson College

Bachelor of Arts in English, 2002

Graduated with honours in English, with minors in Anthropology and Philosophy.

AWARDS

- Winner, 2023 Webby Award for Best Individual Editorial Feature for "People vs. Rubber Bullets"
- Runner-up, 2020 Foreign Press Association Science Story of the Year, for my *Guardian* Long Read piece, "The Man in the Iron Lung"

LANGUAGES

I am conversationally proficient in Spanish.

PROFILE

I am an award-winning freelance journalist, author, podcast host, and researcher with more than 20 years' experience in journalism at all levels and across multiple media.

FREELANCE

2012 to present

PRINT

- I write for *The Boston Globe* Ideas section, *The Atlantic*, and *The Guardian* Long Read, among others, on a wide variety of topics: The decline in reports of alien abductions; the moral implications of recent findings in animal cognition; how luxury prams became a middle-class status symbol; how we form memories in periods of unreality. I also write a column for PriceWaterhouseCooper's in-house magazine, *strategy + business*, examining corporate culture through unexpected lenses.

MULTIMEDIA

- In 2021 and 2022, I worked with independent journalism studio [Long Lead](#) to report and write the award-winning [People vs. Rubber Bullets](#), a six-part interactive series on the devastating effects of the use of kinetic impact projectiles, popularly known as rubber bullets. In 2023, NYU's Journalism Online Awards named the project the "Feature Most Likely to Inspire Future Journalists" and the Society of Professional Journalists awarded it a Sigma Chi Delta award for Best Specialised Journalism Site.

BOOKS

- Princesses Behaving Badly* (Quirk Books 2013), a popular history book on the lives of interesting princesses, has been translated into 12 different languages and optioned for screen and TV rights.
- Ouch! Why Pain Hurts and Why It Doesn't Have To* (Bloomsbury Sigma 2021) is a popular science exploration of the strange experience we call pain, co-written with sociologist Dr. Margee Kerr.
- I am represented by international literary agency Curious Minds.

AUDIO

- Newton's Law* (2021): I wrote, researched, and hosted an eight-episode history podcast for iHeart Radio, recounting Sir Isaac Newton's second career as Warden of the Royal Mint and his confrontation with master counterfeit coin-maker, William Chaloner.
- Portrait of a Spy* (2021): I wrote and narrated the story of the Chevalier d'Eon, an 18th century French spy who may have been one of the first people to legally change her gender, for the Vespucci Group's audio stories production studio.
- I frequently appear on podcasts and radio to discuss my work.

VISUAL

- I am a regular contributor to factual science, history, and true crime television programmes in the US as a communicator and expert.
- I also regularly appear on live television to discuss my work.

RESEARCH

- I have produced thorough reports for organisations on, for example, the potential uses of virtual reality in the luxury retail market.

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WORK EXPERIENCE

Editor-in-Chief

2009-2012

The Periscope Post, London

- The Periscope Post was an online news start-up dedicated to digesting the most interesting and pertinent news commentary of the day; as the editor-in-chief from the very beginning, I established the tone and style of the site and was instrumental in the visual design.
- Managed a team of three journalists and a rotation of interns to produce multiple curated and edited daily postings; drove site traffic above 100,000 visits.

Managing Editor/Associate Editor

2005-2008

South End News, Boston, Mass.

- Reporter for the *South End News*, a central Boston community print weekly with a daily on-line presence.
- Broke several stories of city and state-wide importance, including an investigative series on the Roman Catholic Archdiocese's attempts to shut and sell off a local church amid the sex abuse scandal and the controversial dealings of the companies and politicians behind an \$800 million property development.
- Managed a team of one staff writer and several freelancers.

Weekend assignment editor/producer

New England Cable News, Newton, Mass.

2006

- Worked, on a contract basis, as a weekend and evening assignment editor at New England Cable News, then the country's largest regional news station, determining which stories to cover and organising film and reporting crews.
- Acted as a field producer during busy news cycles, including the New Hampshire and Vermont Primaries.

Editorial Assistant, City Desk

Boston Herald, Boston, Mass.

2005

- Fielded tips, news events, and complaints for the City Desk.
- Reported and wrote articles for daily deadlines as needed.

INTERESTS

I am very active in my local running club, spending several weekends a year running around a muddy field for our cross country team, training with the team year-round for road races, and planning our annual awards night. I am also a keen swimmer, both pool and outdoor: In July 2021, I swam the English Channel as part of a relay team, raising money for mental health charities, and in August 2023, formed a relay team to swim the length of Lake Geneva (42.6 miles in 25 hours and 6 minutes). In addition, I am the leader of the local Beaver Scout group, shepherding a group of boisterous 6-to-8-year-olds through crafts and activities every week (haven't lost one yet).

References and examples of work available upon request. Please visit my website for more information about me.
