

Representing Reality

Course Outline

Week 10. March 5

Topic: What is documentary?

Reading: John Corner (2000) 'Documentary in a post-documentary Culture'. European Science Foundation 'Changing Media – Changing Europe' programme. Team One (Citizenship and Consumerism) Working Paper No. 1.

Screening: *Drinking For England* Brian Hill, 1998

Week 11. March 12

Topic: Blurred boundaries: documentary in the factual landscape

Reading: Extracts from Derek Paget *No Other Way to Tell It*, Manchester University Press, 1998.

Chapter 3, 'Codes and Conventions'; Chapter 5 'Blurring the Boundaries'.

Screening: *The Death of Klinghoffer* Penny Woolcock, 2003

Week 12. March 19

Topic: Documentary and its place/role in the world

Reading: Jane Gaines 'Political Mimesis' In *Collecting Visible Evidence*, edited by Michael Renov and Jane Gaines, Minnesota University Press, 1999

Screening: *Patu!* Merata Mita, 1983

Week 13. March 26

Topic: Memories from the margins

Reading: Extract from John Corner, *The Art of Record*. Manchester University Press, 1996, Chapter on *Handsworth Songs*.

Laura U. Marks, 1999 'fetishes and Fossils: Notes on documentary and materiality, In *Feminism and Documentary*, edited by Diane Waldman and Janet Walker, Minnesota University Press.

Screening: *Handsworth Songs* dir, John Akomfrah;

Week 14.

Topic : Documentary and the Avant Garde

Reading: Robert Stam, 1998, 'The Two Avant-gardes' In *Documenting the Documentary*, edited by Barry K. Grant and Jeannette Sloniowski, Wayne State University Press.

Screening: *The Hour of the Furnaces* (1968) (extract) Dir; Fernando Solanas and Octavio Getino

Week 15

Week 16

Week 17: 23 April

Topic: Documentary Animation

Reading: Gunnar Strom 'Animated Documentary Film.

Screening: *His Mothers Voice*, Dir: Dennis Tupicoff, 1997, *Creature Comforts* Dir: Nick Park, 1991

Week 18: 30 April

Topic: Ethics: Filmmakers and audiences

Reading: Extract from Brian Winston (2000), *Lies, Damn Lies and Documentaries*, BFI. Chapter 5, 'Free Expression'.

Extract from Jane Roscoe and Craig Hight *Faking It: Mock-documentary and the Subversion of Factuality*, Manchester University Press, 2001, Chapter 8 'Deconstruction'.

Screening: *Man Bites Dog*, Dir: Remy Belvaux, Andre Bonzel, Benot Poelvoorde, 1992.

Week 19: 7 May

Topic: Online doco – where we are now

Reading: TBC

Screening: *The Wrong Crowd*

Suggested readings:

- Bonner, F. (2003) *Ordinary Television*, Sage
- Bruzzi, S. (2000) *New Documentary: A Critical Introduction*, London, Routledge
- Corner, John (1996) *The Art of Record: A Critical Introduction to Documentary*, Manchester University Press, Manchester.
- Dovey, Jon (2000) *Freakshow: First Person Media and Factual Television*, London, Pluto Press.
- Grant, B. K. and J. Slonioski (eds.) *Documenting the Documentary: Close Readings of Documentary Film and Video*, Detroit, Wayne State University Press.
- Kilborn, R. (2003) *Staging the Real*, Manchester University Press
- Kilborn, Richard and Izod, John. (1997) *An Introduction to Television Documentary*, Manchester, Manchester University Press.
- Izod, R. Kilborn and M. Hibberd (eds.) *From Grierson to the Docu-soap*, Luton, University of Luton Press
- MacDonald, Kevin, and Mark Cousins (eds.) (1996) *Imagining Reality: The Faber Book of Documentary*, Faber and Faber, London.
- Nichols, Bill (1994) *Blurred Boundaries: Questions of Meaning in Contemporary Culture*, Indiana University Press, Bloomington.
- Nichols, Bill., (1991) *Representing Reality: Issues and Concepts in Documentary*, Indiana University Press, Bloomington.
- Paget, Derek (1990) *True Stories?: Documentary Drama on Radio, Screen and Stage*, Manchester University Press, Manchester.
- Paget, Derek (1998) *No Other Way to Tell It: Dramadoc / Docudrama on Television*, Manchester University Press, Manchester.
- Plantinga, Carl R. (1997) *Rhetoric and Representation in Nonfiction Film*, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge.
- Renov, Michael (ed.) (1993) *Theorizing Documentary*, Routledge.
- Roscoe, J. and Hight, C. (2001) *Faking It: Mock-documentary and the Subversion of Factuality*, Manchester University Press.
- Roscoe, Jane (1999) *Documenting New Zealand: An Immigrant Nation*, Dunmore Press, Palmerston North.
- Sherman, S. (1998) *Documenting Ourselves*, The University Press of Kentucky.
- Waldman, D. and J. Walker (1999) *Feminism and Documentary*, Minnesota University Press.
- Winston, Brian. (1995) *Claiming the Real*, British Film Institute, London.

Journals: (many of the media studies journals in the library feature specials or articles on aspects of non-fiction media, so it pays to look around)

DOX - documentary film magazine

Media Information Australia (special on documentary November 1996, no 82.)

Continuum (special on documentary Issue 1, 1997)

Media Culture and Society Australian Metro

Television and New Media, special issue on Big Brother 2002. Vol 3, No.3.

Other Journal articles:

Bethnall, A. (1999) 'A job, some stars and a big row' In *BFI Mediawatch '99*, supplement to *Sight and Sound*, Vol 9:3, 34-35

Brunsdon, C.; Johnson, C.; Moseley, R. and Wheatley, H. (2001) 'Factual Entertainment on British Television: The Midlands Research Group's 8-9 Project. In *European Journal of Cultural Studies*, Vol 4: 1, 29-63

Corner, J. (2000) 'What do we know about documentary?' In *Media, Culture & Society*, Vol 22: 5.

Corner, J. (2000) Documentary in a Post-Documentary Culture? A Note on Forms and their Functions. European Science Foundation 'Changing Media – Changing Europe' programme. Team One (Citizenship and Consumerism) Working Paper No. 1.

Elizabeth Cowie (1997) "Documenting Fictions" In *Continuum*, Vol 11:1 pp54-66

G. Weissman (1995) 'A Fantasy of Witnessing' *Media, Culture and Society*, Volume 17,

Hill, A. (2000) 'Fearful and Safe: Audience response to British reality programming' In J. Hill, A. (forthcoming) 'Big Brother: The real audience' In *Television and New Media*

Kilborn, R. (1994) 'How real can you get? Recent developments in 'reality' television' In *The European Journal of Communication*, 9: 421-439

Kilborn, R. (2000) 'The docu-soap: A critical reassessment' In J. Izod, R. Kilborn and M. Hibberd (eds.) *From Grierson to the Docu-soap*, Luton, University of Luton Press

L. Ouellette (1995) 'Camcorder Do's and Don'ts: Popular Discourses on Amateur

Mapplebeck, V. (1998) 'The Mad, the Bad, and the Sad' in *DOX*, No.16:8-9

Palmer, G. (2000) 'Keeping track of the locals: Governance, television and the community' In pp293-307.

Roscoe, J. (1997) 'Man Bites Dog: A Deconstruction of the Documentary Look', *Metro Education* No.13 pp7-13.

Roscoe, J. (2000) 'Mock-documentary Goes Mainstream' *Jump Cut* Number 43, pp3-8.

Roscoe, J. 2000 'Documenting the Immigrant Nation: Tensions and contradictions in the Representation of Immigrant Communities in a New Zealand Television Documentary Series', *Media, Culture & Society*. Vol. 22: 243-261

Roscoe, J. and Hight, C. (1997) 'Mocking Silver: Reinventing the Documentary Project' *Continuum*, Volume 11, Number 1, pp67-82.

Roscoe, J. and Hughes, P. (1999) 'Communicating True Stories: New Digital Technologies

Roscoe, J.. 1997 'A Multi-Media Journey: from *Atomic Cafe* to *Public Shelter*', *DOX* No.11 pp:16-18.

Syvertsen, T. (2001) 'Ordinary People in Extraordinary Circumstances: A Study of Participants in Television Dating Games' In *Media, Culture and Society*, Vol 23:3, 319-339

Victoria Mapplebeck (1998) "The Mad, the Bad and the Sad" In *DOX*, No.16, pp 8-9

Watson, P.(2000) 'I am a Poacher' In *DOX* NO:31: 10-12.

