

Development and Growth of Documentaries: Social Influence



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- Searching for definition
- ‘Creative treatment of actuality’ / John Grierson
- Form that is beyond the simple descriptive terms of the teaching film, more imaginative and expressive than the specific publicity picture, deeper in meaning and more skillful in style than the news-reel, wider in observation than the travel picture or lecture film, more profound in implication and reference than the plain ‘interest’ picture / Paul Rotha
- Representation of the world we already occupy / Bill Nichols

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- Brief chronological history:
- Actuality films [Gheorghe Marinescu, Auguste and Louis Lumiere, Edward S. Curtis....]
- *Nanook of the North* / Robert J. Flaherty (1922)
- Direct Cinema [Robert Drew, Richard Leacock, Barbara Kopple, Frederick Wiseman...], and Cinéma vérité [Jean Rouch, Albert and David Maysles ...]

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Human rights films are films that reflect the actual state of human rights violations, or the visions and aspirations as to the ways to redress those violations.

Human Rights Film Network

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Interpretation is an educational activity which aims to reveal meaning and relationships through the use of original objects, by first-hand experience, and by illustrative media, rather than simply to communicate factual information.

Freeman Tilden

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- *Recommended readings:*

- Aitken, Ian (2005). *Encyclopedia of the Documentary Film*. London: Routledge
- Bruzzi, Stela (2000). *New Documentary: A Critical Introduction*. London: Routledge
- Nichols, Bill (2010). *Introduction to Documentary*. Indiana University Press
- Renov, Michael (2004). *The Subject of Documentary*. London: University of Minnesota Press
- Rotha, Paul (1966). *Documentary Film*. London: Faber and Faber Ltd.
- Sarkar, Bhaskar (2009). *Documentary Testimonies: Global Archives of Suffering*. Taylor & Francis
- Turner, Graeme (1999). *Film as social practice*. London: Routledge

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Thank you for your attention 😊